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Vol. 5, No. 1 1990 $3

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This issue was supposed to be about UFOs and religion. Then a group of Russian kids told a Tass reporter about a UFO that landed in their neighborhood park, and the West was abuzz in no time. Despite grumblings from our distributors about delaying this issue, we decided to switch gears to devote part of this issue to the story. Some quick in-house work and input from several generous and insightful contributors resulted in this 12-page section. Additional features with potentially new info on Voronezh will be on tap for the next issue.

Few ***UFO*** news stories have elicited the amount of outspoken reactions as that sent to us in reference to our coverage of a counterintelligence operation aimed at ufology (Vol. 4, No. 4). In response, our Forum section has been reformatted as a crosstalk opportunity—for discussion on this particular item alone. Articulate writers in the field voice typical reactions to researcher William Moore's information and the ethically questionable activities he and his cohorts represent. I speak my piece as well. Regardless of their immediate significance, Moore's disclosures, after this offering, will no longer have a place in ***UFO***. Until discussion and reporting begin targeting the bigger picture, this magazine will channel related material and correspondence to others who may have more interest in this ufologically prime-time soap opera. The real news is *not* Moore, his adversaries and his "aviary." The news is the hidden government and the covert manipulations they perpetrate in and around the UFO community. On that count, we plan to hurry up and wait.

Sometimes we don't have to wait that long. Our man in D.C., James Neilson, gives us scoop one on some advanced helicopter technology apparently in use by at least one wing of the secret forces.

A breath of fresh air blew into UFOs recently. Two ways: the true, breatheable stuff in Aspen, Colorado and the fresh approach taken to the sensitive matter of abduction at the Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind forum held there. Dennis Stacy reports.

UFOs keep appearing in lots of places. As of this issue, our magazine follows suit by increasing its circulation. This begins a phase of growth and uniquely ***UFO glasnost*** which we see for the '90s.

For the record, ***UFO*** toasts the liberation of the Soviet press, but not without a warning: with *glasnost* comes responsibility, comrades.

And with UFOs comes enigma.

Vicki Cooper

STAFF

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Cover art by Rick Powers.

For the Record: The illustration on page 11 of our last issue, Vol. 4. No. 4, was taken from "Family's UFO Siege," an article which will be published in a future issue of ***UFO****. Also, Jacques Vallee was an invited speaker at the 1989 MUFON Conference, not a "MUFON UFO specialist" as indicated in that issue. Due to requirements of some of our new distributors, we have skipped Vol. 4, No. 5, 1989. Subscribers will be credited, and will still receive six issues.*

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January/February 1990 Vol. 5, No. 1

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L E T T E R S

Editor:

Regarding the John Keel interview in your last issue (Vol. 4, No. 4). I've always looked upon Mr. Keel as an authority on the UFO phenomenon. But when he makes statements like "There doesn't seem to be anything to it . . . These objects are made out of energy, not matter . . . I don't think the government has ever had a real interest in the UFO situation," I have to ask myself—is Mr. Keel naive? Is he stupid? Or, is he on somebody's payroll?

I can't believe that a man who has a 40-year history in UFO research can arrive at these conclusions. John Keel has fallen off my celestial pedestal.

Richard Hervonen
Berkley, MI

Editor:

My hat goes off to John Keel for his detailed, objective research. However, I do not share all his feelings that the whole UFO phenomenon is distressing, i.e., negative. His research should extend more into the historical philosophies of the mystics.

Also, Sara Benjamin (Contactee: First Hand, Vol. 4, No. 4) comes as close as anyone yet to answer those prime questions—Who and what are we?

Ben Lee Harris
Leavenworth, WA

Editor:

Though I'm convinced that the ultimate explanation (if we ever discover it) to the abduction/UFO phenomenon may well be beyond our scope of comprehension, I'd like to proffer two theories re the supposed unlikelihood that "alien" life forms could genetically interbreed with humans. (See "What Science Has to Say," Vol. 4, No. 4.)

Theory 1: At some point in the distant future of mankind (after much evolution and mutation), we managed to conquer time travel and are returning now to replenish ailing (but compatible, since they *are human*) gene pools.

Theory 2: At some time in the distant past, an advanced civilization seeded and colonized earth (much as we theorize today that we could do to Mars, for example), *creating* the life forms we have here using genetically altered material from their planet. (Explaining how creation myth and legend could be fact, in concert with scientifically accepted adaptation theory.) This theory might also explain how we could be genetically compatible, and would also validate that nagging suspicion so many of us have—"Are we simply someone's big lab experiment?"

As sci fi as these two ideas sound, I believe them to be less anthropomorphic than dismissing the idea of genetic blending and tampering as impossible, due to the genetic incompatibility of our species with an "alien" race. Perhaps they are not so alien after all.

Laura Van Horn
Lagunitas, CA

Editor:

In regards to comments made about William Moore in Vol. 4, No. 4:

I am no investigative genius, but I have been waiting for someone in ufology to be found out as a government agent. Big, whopping leaks began to spring from the military UFO operation in the late '70s. People under tremendous pressure, and frightened to death about what was going on, began to leak. Since they couldn't really be stopped, people on the "inside" began to create their own leakers in order to confuse the issue.

Ufology is now and always has been a counterintelligence operation. It is not about lights in the sky, it's about who people are and what they know. People have been abducted and implanted. That's the evidence that ufology has been steered away from for 45 years.

Val Germann
Columbia, MO

Ed. Note: Further reader replies regarding Moore and his counterintelligence activities are included in a special section on page 14.

Editor:

John White's article on my work related to plasmoidal "space critters" (Vol. 4, No. 4) implies that I have made claims and seek scientific confirmation and approval from the current crop of mechanistic scientists. Not so. Such expectation of scientific acceptance, which friend John White has steadfastly declined to abandon, collides with both the inner and outer reality of the subject.

There are no "authorities" of any kind in the cosmic revolution of which the UFO thing is just a part. There is no point to running to such people for approval. Imagine the stupidity of this present world, handing out doctorates in biology to people who not only cannot explain the origin of the pulsatory activity in everything living, but who have yet to mount a single project even to find out what makes living matter pulsate. The most fundamental, factor in living systems is evaded.

White's article is necessarily confined to the critters, which world science will eventually be forced to acknowledge. But my urgencies left me long ago. The real revolution lies in the entry into human experience of etheric energy and etheric forces as physically accessible and technologically exploitable realities. This is here on the earth, now, in primary energy weather engineering.

Trevor Constable
Hauula, HI

Editor:

It was quite a pleasure to see ***UFO*** publishing such an extensive article on Trevor Constable's work. John White is to be commended for carrying the flag.

While not giving a complete explanation of UFO phenomena, Constable has pioneered a comprehensive and objective view of what can be termed "etheric" UFOs, a concept that was brought to light in 1946 through Meade Layne's Borderland Sciences publications, after a UFO sighting in 1946.

Tom Brown, director
Borderland Sciences
Garberville, CA

N E W S

UFO Congress in West Germany

Tass Stands By Its UFO Report

By Antonio Huneeus

FRANKFURT—At the recent International UFO Congress here, Oct. 26-29, a representative of the Soviet news agency Tass stood by the recent Voronezh sighting, stating that a study of the depressions left by the UFO had led local investigators to estimate the weight of the object at some 11 tons.

Sergei Bulantsev, identified as chief of the Tass Foreign Bureau, claimed the Voronezh sighting was a more solid case than most had been led to believe. Radioactivity at the site was confirmed by a colonel with the local militia, Bulantsev said, and measured at a level up to 37 microroetgens. Furthermore, he continued, Voronezh mayor Viktor Atlasov also stood by the testimonies of the children from School No. 33, who were so far the only witnesses to describe the tall and bizarre 3-eyed aliens. Atlasov also organized the investigations by official local authorities on the series of incidents between Sept. 21 and Oct. 2.

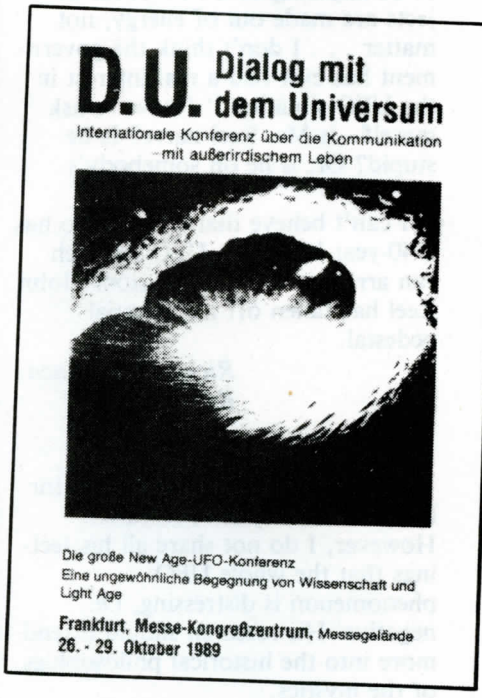
Well over 1,000 people attended the conference, dubbed "Dialogue with the Universe," which was sponsored by Michael Heseman, editor of the German New Age *Magazin 2000*.

Though a decidedly New Age overtone was set with contactees, meditators and psychic channels in attendance, ufologists also spoke. They included Irene Granchi from Brazil, Johsen Takano of Japan, England's Timothy Good and former British police officer Tony Dodd (see sidebar). American UFO study was represented by Stan Friedman, Budd Hopkins, Wendelle Stevens, Zecharia Sitchin and Colman von Keviczky.

As could be expected, the Soviets captured much of the attention, due to the still-recent flap in Voronzeh—followed by a solid report of a UFO over an airport and air base in Omsk, Siberia—and the fact that this was the first time that such a large group of Soviet ufologists had the opportunity to interact personally and exchange cases and views with their Western counterparts.

Besides Bulantsev, the Soviet delegation included Arvid Mordvin-Schodro, whose business card read, "Chairman of Committee on unrecognized events of Geographic Society of USSR," and who serves also as secretary for the committee on anomalous phenomena (UFOs) attached to the Soviet Academy of Sciences; Valery Ubarov, a member of the group headed by Mordvin-Schodro, Valery Nagibin, a member of the Psychology Society of the Academy of Sciences at Kalinin; and physicist Jury Rylkin from the Tomsk Polytechnical Institute and Chairman of the Tomsk group on anomalous phenomena.

Other recent cases with humanoids, in the village of Kharovsk in the Vologda region, Kiev in the Ukraine and Tblissi in Georgia, were discussed by Mordvin-Schodro, Ubarov and Bulantsev. At a separate workshop, Rylkin presented a slide-lecture entitled, "A New Theory of UFOs." In a later interview, the physicist talked about his rather revolutionary ideas dealing with consciousness and its perception on several levels, or ladders, of both animate and inanimate life throughout the universe.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South African Crash Retrieval

One of the more striking revelations made at the West German conference was made by Tony Dodd of England's Yorkshire UFO Society.

Dodd says he screened still-classified "top secret" documents from the South African Air Force, dealing with a UFO crash and retrieval operation in the Kalahari desert last May 7, and its subsequent removal on June 23 to Wright-Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio.

One of the South African documents was released by Dodd at one of several press conferences held during the Frankfurt meeting. Like other alleged UFO crash-retrievals in the U.S., the South African report included the capture of two alien occupants. Unlike most other reports, however, this documentation told of the military's order to shoot down the craft with a laser weapon, which allegedly was done.

Allegedly the object was found at the central Kalahari desert. The validity of Dodd's information is so far inconclusive. *—A.H.*

Sighting Waves in Oklahoma, Kansas

By Matt Schofield

Welch, OK—The two nine feet tall, green, glowing thin beings that may or may not have heads did not look like Oklahomans.

And the England family out here driving at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 13, when they saw the things pop from a round object that was decidedly not a car, got mighty worried about that.

"We were driving down this gravel road out south, and this round thing with two red lights was blocking our way," Shirley England, the mother, said. "Then these green, glowing things popped out. Me, Debbie, John, Sarah, the baby and a neighbor girl, we all saw it. I don't know what it was, but we're all pretty jumpy around here now.

The Englands are not alone. Between Oct. 8 and 9, officials estimate that more than 2,000 residents of northeastern Oklahoma and southeastern Kansas saw unidentified flying objects. More than 100 folks made official reports of seeing white, red, yellow and green or blue lights zipping through the dark sky or hovering over trees or houses.

Only the Englands, whom Craig County Sheriff Jess Walker described as not the type to create outlandish tales, claim to have seen the creatures. But like the Englands, many share a great deal of community trust.

The people having the sightings were police chiefs and sheriffs, county commissioners and morticians, television cameramen and newspaper reporters, school kids and retired citizens.

Bob Baine, chief of police in Commerce, Oklahoma who also saw the lights, said, "Folks were lining their cars along country roads and sitting out to watch the lights dance in the sky. I'd say that around here, more people saw them than didn't."

The lights often flew high but frequently dipped to tree level or just below. For a week, they appeared every night between 8 p.m. and midnight. The lights appeared to rotate as they moved.

Those who saw the lights tell consistent tales. Many took photographs or made videotapes, and some drew pictures of a ball-shaped or partly deflated football-shaped craft. And though many people said they thought they were within a mile of the objects, no one said he heard any engine noise.

Sightings have come from Cherokee County, Kansas to Ottawa and Craig Counties in Oklahoma. The lights sometimes were stationary or moving slowly, but often traveled about the speed of a small plane.

Occasionally, however, the lights "in the snap of your finger, or the blink of an eye, are across the horizon, and I guarantee you we don't have anything in our army that could catch those buggers," according to Jack Young, the Ottawa County commissioner.

The overwhelming feeling in the region is bemusement. Was this some cosmic trick? Were secret weapons being tested? And, if not, just what the heck were folks seeing?

"I feel like an idiot," said Larry Murdock of Columbus, Kansas.

PHOTO BY PATRICK SULLIVAN

WITNESSES MIDWEST—Micki and Larry Murdock (standing) and their daughter and daughter-in-law, Heather and Christa (seated, right to left), claim they saw a UFO while on the porch of their home in Columbus, Kansas. Mr. Murdock thinks it was from another planet.

"I've read stories before about people who've seen this stuff, and I've always thought they were idiots.

"But I looked at the lights through binoculars, and I never was so shocked in all my life," he added. "There it was, the traditional flying saucer, spherical and turning. Honest to God, I believe it's something from another planet."

Jim Green, a police officer and Miami, Oklahoma civil defense director, said outer space might be going a bit too far.

"If we had 12 witnesses to a robbery give stories this similar, we'd have a pretty good case," he said. "Something is out there, probably some experimental aircraft.

"But here's what gets me. It rose as if going straight up, hovered over a house then took off with no noise."

Many say the lights might have been caused by a fast helicopter, a glider, a remote-controlled kite or a military-controlled mini-balloon. But then they say the lights moved unlike any of those things.

Mark Paonessa, professor of physics at the University of Kansas, said the sightings could be accounted for by any number of natural phenomena. He said airplanes, rockets, bright planets, atmospheric conditions, a recent solar flare, methane gas or even secret military projects could account for the lights. He said many move and take witnesses by surprise.

Cherokee County Undersheriff Earney Donaldson said, "What I saw had nothing to do with planets—they moved too fast—or planes—they maneuvered too well and made no noise. I don't like to talk about it. I don't usually see aliens."

Police said that during the sightings, radar controllers in Tulsa, Oklahoma, informed them there were no planes flying or military operations in the area.

Murdock said that if the lights come back, he hopes people will welcome them. "I just hope no Barney Fife type decides to go shooting up whatever it is," he said. "This whole deal has chills going up and down my old back."

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PHOTO BY CLARE ROBERTS

MYSTERY CIRCLES, U.S.A.—Large circles suddenly appeared in farmer Clair Roberts' Iowa field in late September. An investigative team, headed by Omaha physics professor Dr. John Kasher, took measurements of the three marks; one was 20 feet in diameter, one was 40 feet and the largest was 70 feet. The marks bear some resemblance to the strangely precise circular depressions—some up to 100 feet in diameter—which have been cropping up in fields around southern England of late. Neither set of circles has been explained.

Upcoming UFO Events Announced

MARCH 30, 31 and APR. 1: "OUR OTHER STAR CONNECTIONS" is the title of the spring UFO Congress hosted by the Central New Jersey and Pennsylvania UFO Study Group and the UFO Book Club. The event will present guest speakers Leo Sprinkle, Ph.D., Dr. James Harder, Zecharia Sitchin, Charles Hickson and Alice Haggerty, among others. Reservations are now available for the entire Congress ($100) and opening banquet/welcoming party ($35—choose from four entrees). Prices will rise after Feb. 15. If space allows, attendance will be permitted at $60 per day at the door. For more information, write Pat J. Marcattilio, 138 Redfern St., Trenton, NJ 08610, or call (609) 888-1358 between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., EST.

MAY 16-25: "EARTH CONTACT," presented by C4th Productions and Power Places Tours, planned as a conference tour in the Sacred Valley of Peru, will feature UFO contactees and investigators discussing the transformational impact of E.T. contacts. Full days of conference meetings will be alternated with half days of experiencing the local territory. Tour is still in planning stages; those interested should keep current with tour planners. For further information, contact Jon Van De Ven, C4th Productions, 2210 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 676, Santa Monica, CA 90403. (213) 394-7900.

JULY 6, 7 & 8: "UFOs: The Impact of E.T. Contact Upon Society" is Mutual UFO Network's tentative theme for its 1990 symposium in Pensacola, Florida. Gulf Breeze's star UFO witness, Ed Walters, will be on hand to answer questions along with over 100 other local UFO witnesses. More guests will be confirmed later. More information is available from Walt Andrus, MUFON, 103 Oldtowne Rd., Seguin, TX 78155-4099. (512) 379-9216.

'Silent' Chopper Under Army Wing

By James Neilson

Fast, sleek, well-equipped and *nearly silent* helicopters are among the unofficial death-dealing inventory of the U.S. Army's super-secret covert aviation wing, according to sources and recently-obtained Army documents.

Many UFO investigators have suspected that such aircraft have been associated with cattle mutilations or the harrassment of UFO witnesses, and while the existence of these "quiet" helicopters neither confirms or denies their suspicions, it does prove that the technology exists to manufacture them and that, officially, they do not exist.

Though not totally silent, a new helicopter configuration has been developed which reduces rotor noise from upwards of 175 decibels to the 50-to-80 decibel range, aircraft industry sources recently told ***UFO***.

When asked about the covert aviation wing alleged to have these aircraft, Army spokesman Lt. Col. John Chapla said, "We have nothing for you on this," to which former task commander Brig. Gen. Lou Hennies added: "Official Army policy says that all we acknowledge is that the group exists." In the group's inventory are 15 CH-47 Chinook cargo helicopters, the same kind of helicopters observed in the presence of the still unidentified triangular-shaped object encountered in 1980 by three south Texas residents who were left with classic radiation sickness injuries.

Originally, two special aviation groups were established: the now-defunct First Rotary Wing Test Activity, better known by its code name Seaspray, which was based at Ft. Eustis Virginia and the 160th Aviation Wing, better known as "Task Force 160," which is based at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky. (The latter group possesses the huge Chinooks.) Both were principally established to provide aviation support and expertise for the Army Operations Directorate's Special Operations Division (SOD), which was set up on Feb. 26, 1981 to run all of the Army's special operations, "black" units and counterterrorism programs.

***TWO-ROTOR**—A CH-47D in flight. The Army's covert aviation wing known as Task Force 160 is said to have 15 CH-47 choppers at its behest. Numerous such helicopters were allegedly observed during the 1980 Cash-Landrum incident in Texas. Photo courtesy of Boeing Helicopter*

Background

The SOD's first order of business was to establish a clandestine aviation capability, the backbone of any good covert operation. Task Force 160, still in operation, was the biggest but less secret of the two air wings. It incorporated the Seaspray unit when Seaspray was disbanded in 1983 following its involvement in a number of illegal operations. Although Seaspray was part of a new Army program to conduct "covert operations . . . in support of the Office of Joint Chiefs of Staff," under Executive Order 12036, only the CIA had been authorized to conduct covert operations. Since a secret Army aviation program engaged in such affairs was clearly illegal, the Army entered into a joint partnership with the CIA under which Seaspray was incorporated into Aviation Technical Services (ATS), a wholly-owned CIA "front" company.

The joint arrangement provided the Army with liability protection, since ATS was a legally-incorporated commercial business and the Army was prohibited from setting up incorporated proprietaries of its own. A number of the most super-sophisticated "star wars" helicopters acquired by the two units were purchased "off the books" through the CIA in order to avoid being identified as part of the formal Army aircraft inventory. "Any plane not in our inventory we could get virtually instantly," said a former Seaspray member.

Sensitive Missions

Both units were quickly used to support a number of covert operations, including the Reagan Administration's secret war against Nicaragua. Seaspray in particular was deployed to undertake some of the most sensitive and highly classified missions ever launched by the Army. It supported electronic intelligence-gathering operations, secretly transported foreign leaders, ferried Delta Force commandos and worked closely with a variety of counterterrorist forces.

"We provided instant clandestine aviation to anyone and anywhere worldwide," the former Seaspray member has boasted. Because Seaspray operated under the auspices of ATS, it could be called into action whenever a non-government cover was needed.

Task Force 160, whose motto is, "Death waits in the dark," saw full action when it was tasked to transport Ranger battalions under fire during the U.S.' invasion of Grenada. Today, Task Force 160 is a principal component of the Pen-

tagon's Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC), governed by the Army's 1st Special Operations Command (SOCOM) at Ft. Bragg, South Carolina. The other primary components are Delta Force (subordinate to the JSOC), the Navy's SEAL Team 6 and the Air Force's Special Operations Force's 2nd Air Division.

Blue Berets

Under the 2nd Air Division, the 1st Special Operations Wing (SOW), based at Hurlburt Field, works closely with Task Force 160 and Delta Force. Under the SOW is the Special Ops Combat Control Team (SOCCT), which is believed to be the mysterious group that has come to be known in the UFO community as the "Blue Berets." While one special operations expert with the Congressional Research Service confirmed the existence of the Blue Berets, he elaborated by describing them as the Air Force's equivalent of the Army's Delta Force; that they are "special air commandos." Officially, SOCCT personnel are specialized air traffic controllers and aerial fire support facilitators skilled at covert and clandestine activities in hostile territory. The Air Force liaison to Congress, however, denied their existence when questioned, according to an Army intelligence analyst who was assigned briefly to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

The term "Blue Berets" also appears in a document recently provided to the FBI, which pertains to a potential FBI investigation of a high-level espionage ring involving a four-star Air Force general assigned to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in Europe. The reference appears with respect to the general's previous involvement with Air Force antiterrorist operations.

Of note to UFO investigators is the Special Operations Squadron (SOS), a group under the SOW which has responsibility for covert Surface-To-Air-Recovery (STAR) operations in support of all military commands. Referred to only briefly during Congressional appropriations hearings in 1986, the SOS is conducting a program known as Project 46, "which would be able to recover six people at a time . . . at low levels significant distances behind enemy lines . . . or retrieve a [classified word or words blacked out in the publicly-available record of the hearing] with a specially-configured MC-130 aircraft."

Under Cover?

In the world of "black" budgets and "sunk" operations, STAR, or Project 46, could easily be a cover for other highly secret recovery operations. Also under SOW is the SOS Heavy Lift Helicopter detachment at Hurlburt Field, utilizing top-of-the-line choppers whose mission duplicates that of the MC 130 aircraft. The onboard avionics allows these 'copters to fly in complete darkness at 110 knots for 300 nautical miles, with the capacity for inflight refueling.

The crown jewel of Seaspray's fleet was its two Hughes 500MD helicopters—upgraded versions of their less-powerful ancestor, the OH-6 Cayuse light observation helicopter used extensively in Vietnam. They were specially modified helicopters that were purchased "off the books," using the CIA to handle the transactions. Eventually, further purchases and modifications were authorized.

The 500 MDs in question can be piloted at tree-top level at up to 140 miles per hour. They incorporate forward-looking infrared radar, which provides an extremely high-resolution infrared picture of the ground in front of and below the aircraft and allows the choppers to be flown under the cover of total darkness. Its range can be focused on a very small target or the entire horizon. Projected onto a television screen, the radar will show anything on the ground.

In addition to being quiet and incorporating state-of-the-art, forward-looking infrared radar, these choppers also contain individual night vision equipment and imaging systems, and electronic countermeasures and cryptographic equipment.

Most importantly, though, these helicopters are silent. The only hint that the Army was involved in creating silent helicopters came four months after Seaspray and Task Force 160 were created—and were still very much a secret. ***Business Week*** of July 27, 1981 reported that Hughes was "testing a new design that . . . promises to reduce the noise . . . associated with choppers."

Hughes' research was being conducted under a $1.4 million contract from the U. S. Army Applied Technology Laboratory (ATL) and the Pentagon's interservices Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). The report offered no hint, though, that silenced helicopters had already been deployed by the Army. It *was* revealed, however, that 'copter pioneer Sikorsky Aircraft, a division of United Technologies, had had a silent, no-rear-rotor prototype "that has been flying for years."

Sikorsky and Textron, Inc.'s Bell Helicopter division were also working jointly on tackling the noise problem by reshaping the blades of main rotor to increase lift at slower speeds.

Task Force 160 was initially composed of 16 CH-47 Chinooks, 30 UH-60A Black Hawk utility 'copters, 28 OH-6A light observation choppers, and one AH-6 gunship. Today, according to Army documents, the unit is equipped with about 75 helicopters—30 UH-60 Black Hawks, 30 silent OH-6A model aircraft (which apparently includes the choppers previously used by Seaspray, since Task Force 160's inventory of this aircraft has increased), and 15 CH-47 Chinooks.

The unit consists of 829 soldiers, including 627 enlisted men, 142 warrant officers and 60 officers.

Task Force 160's pilots are the best of the Army's best. They are known as "Night Stalkers" for their ability to take their aircraft to the very "edge of the performance envelope." Their daring, virtually impossible aerial acrobatics have also cost many lives. In 1983, 17 task force members were killed during flight training—over half of the Army's total fatality count for the year. Some of these fatalities resulted from flying too close to power lines at night. In contrast, though, during a three-year period ending in December, 1987, no task force soldiers were killed in 111 aviation accidents.

James Neilson (pseudonym) is an award-winning investigative reporter on the covert ops beat in Washington, D.C. His articles on the government's hidden UFO infrastructure have run in past issues of ***UFO.***

Congressional Alert!

PHOTOS BY BATTMAN

***SOURCES**—On Oct. 6, 1989, six specialists from the UFO community joined forces in New York, calling for a Congressional investigation into UFOs. 'Large segments of the major news media have chosen to ignore UFOs,' commented moderator Michael Luckman. Not including late arrival Whitley Strieber, the panelists above are (left to right) researcher Bill Knell, attorney Robert Bletchman, Luckman, space scientist Brian O'Leary and researcher Stanton Friedman.*

***BY LAW**—Among those trying to rally the press was attorney Robert Bletchman (left), who has been instrumental in conducting an advertising campaign that will alert the public and the press to the need for ending the UFO cover-up. Michael Luckman ponders his comments to the press and public, right.*

***VISITING**—With Bill Knell to his right and a Visitor statuette in front of him, bestselling author Whitley Strieber told the crowd of his feelings regarding his alien abduction experiences, as a dramatic highlight to the need for full disclosure of the facts. Strieber's own disclosures have been the basis of his books **Communion** and **Transformation**. In **Majestic**, he fictionalized the Roswell UFO crash. 'I want to find out what happened to me,' he said.*

Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind

Forum Tries 'Whole Systems' Approach

By Dennis Stacy

ASPEN—In the region's frontier heydey, this time of year would probably center on the first snow and the imminent onset of winter. But on the weekend of Oct. 21-22, it revolved around the apparent ongoing interaction between visitors from another sphere and the humans, however precariously, who inhabit this fragile planet. The occasion was the first Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind forum, hosted by educator Larry Koss and attended by a number of contactees, abductees and UFO investigators, along with various professionals from a number of disciplines having something to contribute to the issue at hand.

The forum was held at the Givens Institute, an adjunct of the University of Colorado Health Science Center in Denver. Circular in shape, with each two-seated, multi-level podium sharing a single microphone, the small auditorium and subsequent proceedings resembled nothing so much as a session of the United Nations conducted inside a flying saucer.

But the invisible form of the forum, according to Koss, "took place about six months ago, when I realized that I might have been a recipient of a close encounter of the fourth kind myself." Like others who have reported the same phenomenon, Koss quickly realized that society has a skewed view of the abduction experience, a jaundiced perspective that may even infect ufologists. The Aspen event, says Koss, was an attempt to "bring whole systems thinking to the subject, to overcome the polarization and competition that too often holds back understanding." Part of the problem, he felt, was compartmentalized thinking, our inability to see the forest through the trees.

"Is the CE-4, or abduction," Koss wondered, "*just* intrusive," or merely some single aspect of some yet unperceived, holistic panorama?

"What is it in all these different scenarios that the whole is trying to encompass? It may well require a higher exercise of our own presently fragmented consciousness to be able to figure it out."

ENCOUNTER IN THE ROUND—The Givens Institute features a circular conference arrangement. Conferees use individual microphones.

Certainly some unusual and varied fragments of Close Encounter experience were pulled together in Aspen. Present were close encounter "recipients,"—the preferred term for abductees— and UFO researchers, medical and mental health professionals, at least one "intuitive consultant," several relative "outsiders," such as former astronaut Brian O'Leary and physicist-author Fred Alan Wolf, and numerous personifications of various New Age viewpoints, from Native American and shamanic traditions, to alternative therapists and probably even organic gardeners. Short of a representative debunker, a broader collection of UFO and alien perspectives could hardly be imagined. In fact, the ratio of traditional participant to audience was about one in three. The symposium was structured so that Saturday was given over to data-gathering and Sunday to synthesizing. Before the weekend was out, virtually everyone present would be allowed to have their say.

And some who weren't as well. The Friday night "world premiere" of Whitley Strieber's "Communion"—the movie—for instance, was nearly cancelled at the eleventh hour, for unknown reasons, by Strieber himself, via telephone calls to Koss and the theater showing the picture. At the last moment, however, the reel was allowed to roll. (See review of the film, p. 33.)

Saturday's daytime schedule consisted of three panels devoted to different aspects of the CE-4: the investigation of same, the experience itself, and the therapeutic treatment of the CE-4 recipient. O'Leary and Wolf closed the Saturday evening session with their respective presentations. The investigative panel was composed of folklorist Dr. Eddie Bullard, author and artist Budd Hopkins, researcher Ann Druffel, hypnotherapist Edith Fiore and University of Wyoming professor emeritus in psychology, Dr. Leo Sprinkle. Aspen resident Ted Lenio moderated these and succeeding proceedings.

Fiore, author of ***Encounter***, outlined the typical abduction scenario, which usually begins with the recipient either asleep in bed (or riding in a car). "They awaken," she noted, "and are immediately confronted by three or four small beings with large heads and dark eyes." They are then escorted or floated outside, where a beam of light may

be encountered, and then enter a large, circular craft. Stark terror usually ensues at this point, Fiore noted. Panels, monitors and screens are seen inside. The recipient is placed on a table underneath an unseen source of light, and the physical examination begins. Typically, all body orifices are probed and samples of skin, hair and nails are taken. "They are usually not asked questions or given any information," said Fiore.

Hopkins, speaking from his own extensive research, added that what communication there is is nearly always telepathic, and that the "greys" make up approximately 85 percent of the beings reported in his own cases. He wondered if the occasional reports of out-of-body experience (OBE) might not be a product of the regressive hypnosis process itself. "Possibly," Fiore answered, "but why would anyone perform a physical examination of an astral body?"

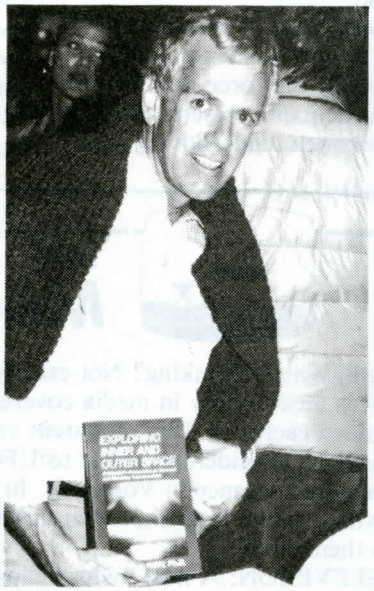
"If you read these stories strictly as a literary product," chimed in the folkorist Bullard, "the abductors don't seem to be very healthy. They don't get much sunlight and they appear to come from a planet that's been destroyed."

After a gourmet organic lunch, the forum's invited abductees took their seats. The panel included Travis Walton, Charles Hickson, Betty Hill, Ida Kannenberg, Rosemary Onato, and under pseudonyms, Kathie Davis and Sara Shaw. (The latter two women featured prominently in Hopkins' ***Intruders*** and Druffel and D. Scott Rogo's ***The Tujunga Canyon Contacts***, respectively.)

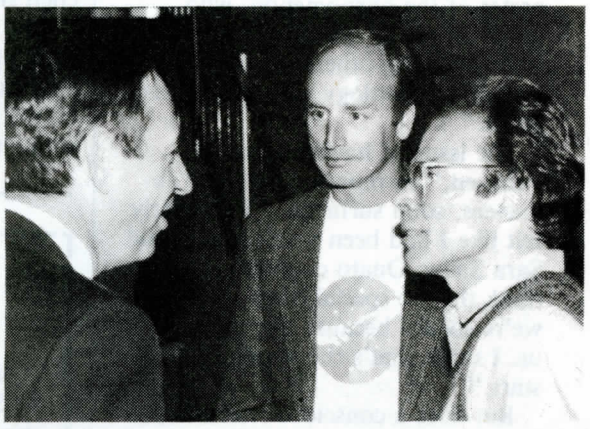
Like Dorian Gray, their collective canvas reflects a generally dismal and decaying protrait with few highlights, although some may find it framed in gold-gilt. The analogy most often invoked is our handling of wild game, tagged for tracking and experimental purposes. "There is a tendency to downgrade the human race," says Onato, "to think of these things as somehow superior, but that's not true. I'm very disturbed by people who *want* to have this experience." Onato admits to a certain rush at having encountered another lifeform face-to-face, but said that the experience also left her feeling "endangered . . . Like oil and water, we

PHOTOS BY DENNIS STACY

SPECIAL GUESTS—*On a cold day in Aspen, a few of the guests who were featured at the Close Encounters conference warm up for the camera. From left: The pseudonymous 'Kathie Davis and 'Sara Shaw,' Dr. Dan C. Overlade, Ann Druffel, Dr. Barry Downing and Dr. Brian O'Leary.*



AUTHOR—*Brian O'Leary shows off his latest book amid conference participants.*

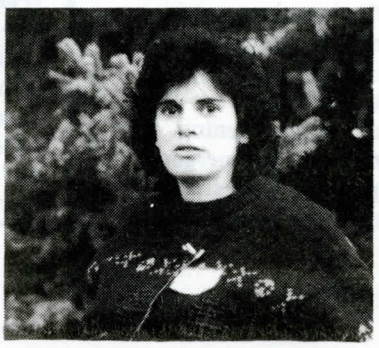


MOMENT OF TALK—*From left: The Rev. Dr. Barry Downing, conference coordinator Larry Koss and moderator Ted Lenio.*

PHYSICIST—*Dr. Fred Alan Wolf, author and 'new physics' theorist.*

MARK THOMAS

SPEAKING OUT—*From left: abduction researcher Ed Bullard, hypnotherapist Edith Fiore and researcher/educator Leo Sprinkle.*



ABDUCTEE *Rosemary Onato.*

just don't mix."

What we can learn from such encounters, however, remains to be seen, as well as how resilient we are as a species. Ida Kannenberg, for example, feels that "the whole UFO phenomenon is a learning process. If they don't completely reveal themselves to us, at least they've revealed us to ourselves."

Hopkins warned against hardening into any single viewpoint, for both our own future understanding of the phenomenon and as a guard against the creation of a UFO or abduction cult. "Be on the lookout," he advised, "for any coalescing around an individual who serves as a sole interpreter of the phenomenon, who urges people to rally around him while avoiding others, or tries to establish a theology with himself as a priest."

The issue of having been "chosen," as reported by some abductees, soon surfaced. "I definitely felt like I had been vindicated," said Sara Shaw. Onato countered, "If we think they're special, then we think we're special because they selected us. I think that's the wrong point to start."

But does a conscious selection process actually take place, as suggested, or are we again projecting attributes of human thinking onto an alien consciousness—where they may or may not prove applicable? "If you go fishing and catch a fish," asked Travis Walton, "can you say you *chose* that particular fish or just settled for the first one that came along?"

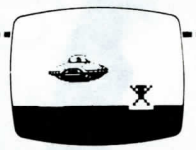
Virtually all of the abductees or recipients admitted that, in retrospect, the experience might have made them stronger and more adaptable to circumstances, but that any advantages were probably outweighed or at least counterbalanced by the innate helplessness and sense of psychological and physical violation the situation engendered.

A shaman or two present likened the scenario to that of the initiates who return to the mundane world after encounters with the mystical realm, only to find themselves separated from friends and sometimes family by intervening events, including a newly-emergent shift of accompanying values. "I'm not afraid of anything now," vowed Kathie Davis, "including death."

So to some extent, self-healing occurs as an inevitable by-product of our human heritage, albeit there are obviously no guarantees. Hence the third panel of the forum, focusing on therapeutic treatment. The consensus is that hypnosis is too eagerly employed as an investigative tool to retrieve repressed memories of the abduction experience, often haphazardly and frequently with dubious results. But hypnosis may also be used to promote the healing process itself, by floating submerged emotions to the surface of consciousness where they can dissipate like day-old soap bubbles in a kitchen sink.

One west coast psychotherapist took up an inordinate amount of time dowsing the force field of one of the participants present. No one wants to knock tender loving care, but on the other hand, one winces inside, knowing full well that any video coverage of what is promoted as a fullscale airing of the abduction phenomenon is fated to be portrayed as something more closely resembling a New Age seminar on dowsing. Innocent bystanders may well wonder just what is going on.

On the way to the airport on a cold, crisp morning, Koss tries to put things into perspective. One of the local dailies has just hit the stands with a front-page scoop that empathizes with the sensational, hairy-scary aspects of the alien abductors. "I'm sorry now that I invited him," he says of the offending reporter. "He concentrated on the sensationalistic factor, and that wasn't all there was to it. There was a lot of compassion for the recipients of this experience, and he completely ignored it."



UFO . . . MediaWatch

MediaWatch shrinking? Not exactly. The alleged UFO landing in the USSR is a case study in media coverage of the UFO phenomenon, with the added cachet of Tass' apparent validation. Yet Soviet press has actually given considerable space to UFO information, well before this historical occurrence in Voronezh. In the West, most newspapers stayed put with a one-or two-shot wrap-up of the main points. Not a murmur from them since.

TELEVISION: A new "whistleblower" is emerging from the alien base scene, and ***KLAS-TV*** in Las Vegas is giving ongoing coverage to his titillating disclosures. Stay tuned for further details on one Robert Lazar, who claims to be a physicist who was hired to work at the Air Force's famed "Area 51," near Nellis AFB, where the alien discs are allegedly a-flying as fast and furious as the rumors. . . the Soviets get down and get even more candid with a new *glasnosty* weekly news program, called ***Seven Days*** . . . Cummings Entertainment, springboarding from the disclosures of Strieber and others, will syndicate its special ***Encounters of the Fourth Kind: Report on Communion*** . . . Teenaged abductees? A few are said to be appearing on a segment of Dr. Ruth Westheimer's program for young people, ***What's Up, Dr. Ruth?*** on Lifetime . . . Ron Howard's Imagine Films and SCTV joined forces on ***My Talk Show***, interviewing Budd Hopkins and a close encounter witness or two . . . ***R&D Productions*** (for "razzle-dazzle") will break into UFOdom with an hourlong documentary on the experience of alien contact.

FOREIGN PRESS: . . . Reader Yoshihiro Kato says that Japan's ***Weekly Yomiuri*** recently reported the discovery of a mutilated cow at Tago-cho.

BOOKS: Writer Keith Thompson's at work on an idea—a book on the symbolic dimensions of UFO phenomena . . . Speaking of dimensions, Jacques Vallee's ***Dimensions*** is now out in paperback from Ballantine . . . ***UFO*** plans to review Ed Conroy's ***Report on Communion***, Kevin Randle's ***The October Scenario*** and Brian O'Leary's ***Exploring Inner and Outer Space***, next issue.—***V.C.***

PEOPLE

In focus...

Carol Drake

Hot on the heels of the Voronezh incident, a complementary UFO event from the West graced the folk in America's heartland, rural Iowa.

Though no one saw any aliens—tall, three-eyed or otherwise—the UFOs at least left calling cards. Faster than you can say "saucer," circular burn marks sprung up in a hayfield near the home of farmer Clair Roberts in Drakesville, Iowa.

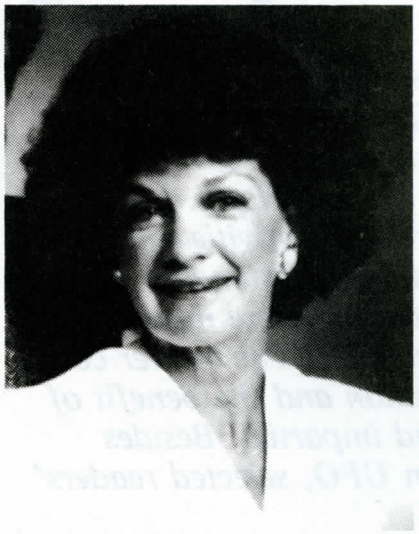
Then, faster than you can chant "ratings," reporters from the tabloid show *A Current Affair* and other media converged on rancher Carol Drake after hearing of her impressive UFO sighting on Oct. 11, in Centerville, Iowa.

A pretty mother of five, Drake and her husband Larry grow corn and soybeans, and aren't used to so much bustle and TV equipment. She swore she'd never tell the story again. But then ***UFO*** Magazine called, full of questions. Nicely, Drake complied. "I had just come into the house," she began.

"It had gotten dark. It was a little bit before eight. I went into the front room and switched on the light, and started to turn on the TV when a light in the eastern sky caught my eye.

"The light I saw was a kind of light red. But it was very big, and as I was looking at it, another one appeared beside it, but it was yellow-white. The red one kind of dimmed down a little, then it turned yellow-white like the one beside it."

Naturally, she was fascinated. She decided to walk outside and listen to the noise the strange object made. "There was absolutely no sound from it whatsoever," she recalls. "It moved from east to west very slowly, and I watched probably close to ten minutes. They were not just zipping across the sky; they weren't just here and gone. They were either bigger than I thought they were, and I'm assuming farther away than I first thought, but they did move slowly."



Carol Drake

She watched awhile longer and then went in to call her daughter Kim, who lived just a few miles away. "I asked her to go out and look and see what she could see," Drake said. "She and her husband and a visitor watched them for quite awhile also."

Afterwards, other witnesses called her with their corroborating reports of seeing something in the sky. But no one knows exactly *what* it was they saw.

It was Drake's first UFO sighting, and she won't hasten to conclusions. "I'm kinda torn between believing that it's something from not of this world to thinking that there's probably a logical explanation for it. I kinda go back and forth."

She was reminded of the Russian UFO. "From what we read in the paper, they kind of made it out to be a joke, I thought."

Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Bringle

In brief...

The Bringles

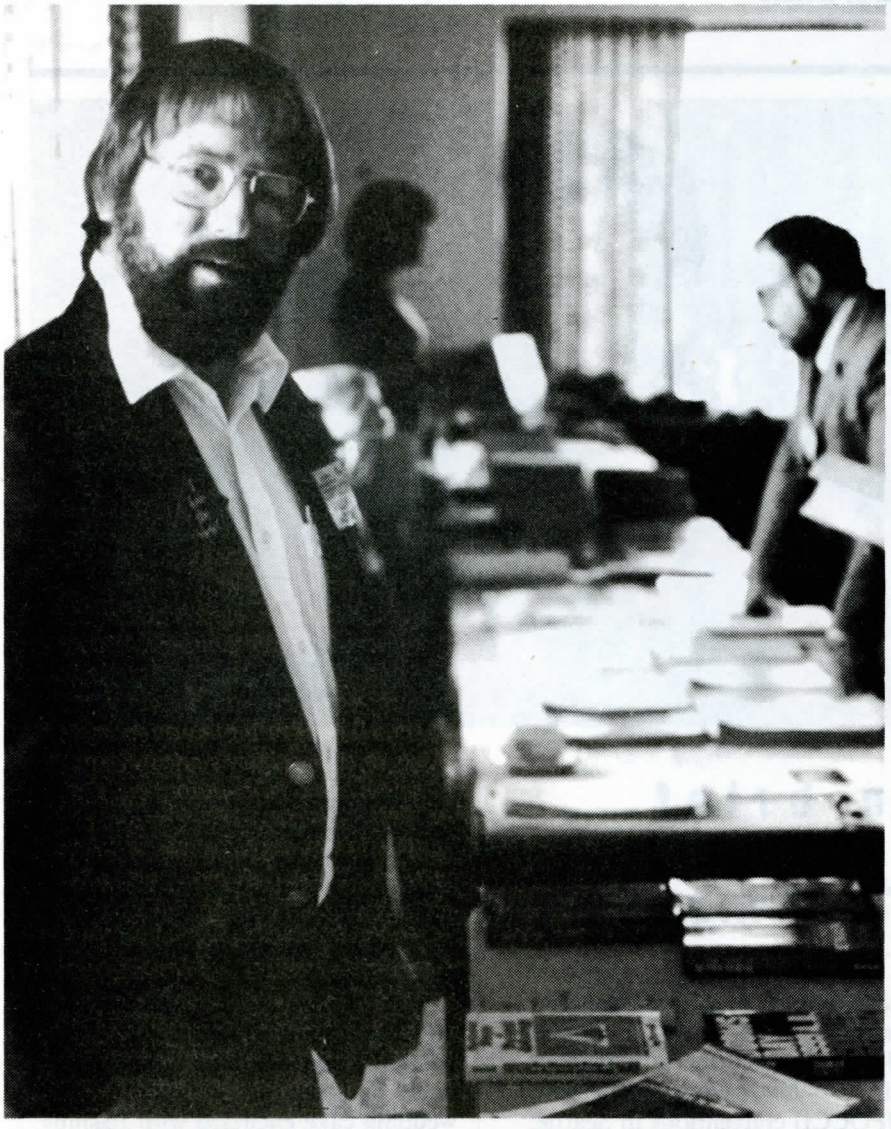
Unusual entertainers, such as virtuoso pianists and exotic dancers, were the former choice of planners who worked on the show held at UFO Contact Center International (UFOCCI) conventions in Seattle. UFOCCI, of course, offers special help to contactees, operating 22 centers throughout the U.S.

This year, the event's entertainment program was a wedding—that of UFOCCI director Aileen Edwards and Gerald Bringle of Bagdad, Arizona.

Mrs. Bringle and her new co-director celebrated with happy UFOCCI conventioneers, who later dined on pieces of a unique "UFO" wedding cake encircled with flashing colored lights.

F O R U M

This Forum is devoted to discussion and debate regarding writer/researcher William Moore's controversial disclosures about a government-sanctioned disinformation campaign. (See Vol. 4, No. 4. Moore related his counterintelligence-related activities in July of last year.) The alleged operation, presumably by military intelligence officials, caused severe mental and physical harm to a civilian researcher. The matter continues to demand hard examination and the benefit of a public airing, both critical and impartial. Besides response from Moore and from ***UFO****, selected readers' comments are presented here.*



William Moore

Bill Moore—

With respect to the ***UFO*** article and editorial in Vol. 4, No. 4, it might be appropriate to point out that counterintelligence people associated with the U.S. government have been disseminating disinformation about UFOs to the public (of which the so-called UFO community is a part) for many years. Only by exposing this process can we ever hope to learn anything about how it works or about its impact on UFO researchers and journalists. Only by exposing it and ultimately understanding who's behind it and why it's being done can we ever hope to develop a strategy for counteracting its influence. In light of this, the ***UFO*** editorial comment that these revelations represent "the blackest mark" on ufology yet to surface somehow suggests that we would be better off not knowing how vulnerable we have been and are. I disagree. Rather, I think the exposure of this heretofore only suspected chicanery places us in the strongest position we have ever enjoyed.

The criticisms of "what (I) did to Bennewitz" is just another example of (more *ad hominem* attacks). Truth is, all I "did" to Bennewitz was report on his thinking, movement and activities. The "ethical question" raised here is just another way to conveniently avoid the real issue; the inference being that if I am unethical, those who cast the aspersion must somehow be better. Rubbish!

Barry Greenwood's assertion that "money" is my motive is laughable on two fronts. In the first instance, all he needs to do is come to California and look at my income tax returns or my bank balances to see just how much money I make from my activities. Secondly, if we are to accept Greenwood's philosophy that making money is an inherently evil motive, then I suppose none of us would ever go to the movies, buy a newspaper, watch the evening news on TV, listen to the radio, buy a copy of this magazine or purchase food from a supermarket—all of which operate solely for the purpose of turning a profit.

William Moore is a Southern California author and researcher.

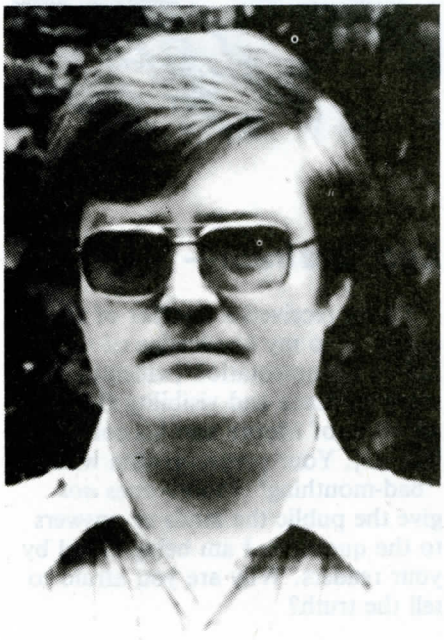
Barry Greenwood—

Since Moore has been backed into a corner, he can do nothing else but fight back and hurt his critics as much as he can before he sinks below the waves. Therefore, I expect his remarks to be a typical comeback from here on.

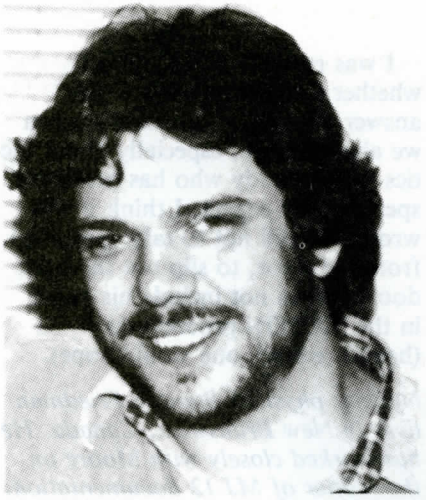
I never said Moore *was* rich. I said his motive was to score big and make money. This was based on the hope that the story would be accepted as fact and that Moore would be in demand as a speaker/celebrity/famous author, etc. It obviously didn't happen.

Where did I say that making money was inherently evil? On the contrary, we all need money to live in the world. When one tries to extract money from people based on fraud, deception, and falsehood, that's where I draw the line. For Moore to compare his activities to publishing newspapers and magazines or other legitimate, profit-making pursuits is insulting. He did nothing more than to expose a small clique of fantasy-as-fact producers, including himself, to public outrage. Edward R. Murrow is turning over in his grave!

Barry Greenwood co-directs Citizens Against UFO Secrecy and edits the CAUS Newsletter.



Barry Greenwood



Ron Schaffner

Ron Schaffner—

Bill Moore's recent confessional came as no surprise to me. I have long been an antagonist of his research on such matters as the Roswell scenario and the MJ-12 fiasco. His alleged connections reek of disinformation and phony material. He appears to have crossed that thin line between objective ufologist and sensationalized journalist.

However, I do somewhat sympathize with what happened in his methodology. Many times, researchers tend to jump the gun on information from confidential sources, some claiming to be government agents. There are many individuals who spread disinformation for any number of reasons.

This almost happened to me and other members of the Ohio UFO Investigators League (OUFOIL). Back in the early '80s, we were duped into accepting bogus photographs plus various items of so-called soft evidence of Fortean phenomena. The informant seemed impeccable until we began intensive investigation. When we learned the true nature of the alien body photos, OUFOIL published an expose of the entire affair and basically apologized to the UFO community. Bill Moore should be commended for standing up and telling his story. There are others out there who have bogus material and informants, but do not have the guts to tell it all.

Ron Schaffner belongs to the Ohio UFO Investigators League and publishes ***Creature Chronicles.***

Stanton Friedman—

Moore and I worked closely together from 1978-1985 on the Roswell investigation. We have kept in fairly close contact since then. Because of our association, I have been asked a lot of questions about his controversial presentation in Las Vegas on July 1. I was there in person and had read his paper three nights earlier.

That so many people have made inaccurate statements about what he actually said is clear evidence that it was NOT his best communication effort. Let me note, first of all, that he did NOT say he was disinforming people. He did provide information about various people and activities. Certainly there were people given false information by (then Air Force Office of Special Investigations agent) Richard Doty and others. One of the outstanding hallmarks of many so-called ufologists is their willingness to accept anything given them, or that they read, at face value. If you want to trust, that's fine. But verify, verify, verify.

My primary concerns, as I have told Moore, related to tactics. The major point of his presentation was supposed to be that some of the same stories coming from people like Bill Cooper, John Lear, etc. were the disinformation supplied to Paul Bennewitz and Linda Howe years ago. This point was very obscure. I also think there should have been an indication of regret about Paul Bennewitz' kind of mental self-destruction, even if Moore didn't produce it.

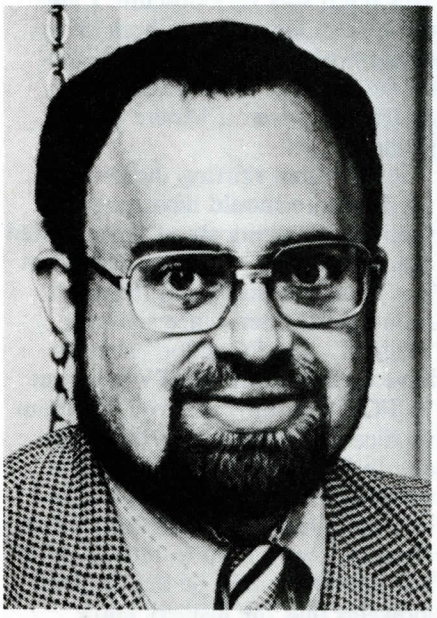
Rather than skirting the issue, I think Moore should have made specific comments about unsupported charges that have been made against him. I do not think that [Moore's code-named intelligence sources] "Falcon" and "Condor" should have been used on the TV program "UFO Cover-up . . . Live!" without verification, *especially* if there was any feeling (on Moore's part) that some of what would be said would be false. Once disinformation is out there, it is very hard to retract. More information should be put out that indicates that the insiders know things proving they are insiders, such

as their knowledge about my activities.

I think there should have been more focus on the need for double-checking. There is a vast difference between collecting and repeating stories from people who "seem sincere" and checking them out. One of the important aspects of Moore's and my investigation of the Roswell incident was our independent collection of verification.

It should come as no surprise that I have suggested to Bill that he was being used by the insiders to keep him from doing more of the very important and powerful investigation he did on the Roswell incident, on Frank Scully's work, etc. ... just as Paul Bennewitz was kept from investigating his low-frequency signals.

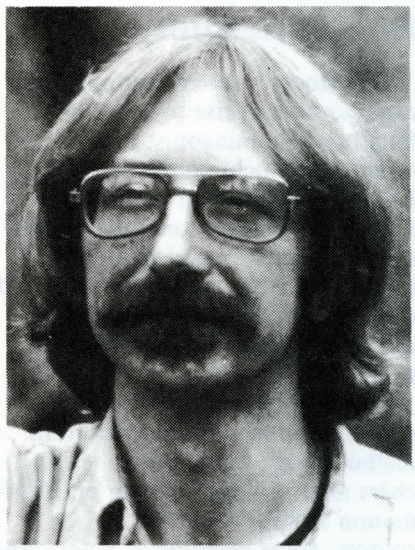
I realize that some people think the MJ-12 documents are being used to divert my attention as well. That must be checked out. But many, such as Phil Klass and Barry Greenwood, seem bent on making charges without substance rather than doing serious investigation in the first place. I should also say that I feel certain that Moore and Jaime Shandera did not falsify the MJ-12 documents. The only conclusion I have reached about the MJ-12 documents is that if they are fakes, they were done by insiders, not outsiders. Other parties *have* been spreading disinformation about the archeological aspects of the Roswell incident.



Stanton Friedman

I was recently asked publicly whether I still trust Moore. My answer was yes. This doesn't mean we always agree, especially about tactics. As anybody who has heard me speak would expect, I think it was wrong for Bill not to take questions from the floor, to slip out the back door, and to not include his paper in the MUFON proceedings (heavily edited, one would hope).

Nuclear physicist Stanton Friedman lives in New Brunswick, Canada. He has worked closely with Moore on the matter of MJ-12 documentation.



Michael Jamieson

Michael Jamieson—

Bystanders to this field (such as myself) do not have too much interest in researchers' motives, etc. But many of us become irritated when such matters are emphasized and also when assertions are presented without supporting data.

I personally feel that expressed suspicions on the validity of Moore's dealings in concert with anonymous intelligence sources arise because of the inherent mystery surrounding such efforts—where contacts with officials in highly sensitive positions necessitate caution and reserve. Obvious legal questions related to national security secrets and classification requirements reinforce the continued aura of mystery. The reported intent of some of the officials—representative of an informed faction desiring a legal and healthy way to end the cover-up—is another delicate matter requiring the frustrating complication of requisite secrecy, which develops with cautious, reserved approach to the stated intent. Add that to the reported fact (by Moore in July) that differing contacts have different mixtures of motives, and it's easy to see why those outside Moore's informational loop would naturally be mystified by the volume of smoke.

It is increasingly my observation that too much noisy static surrounds valid efforts diligently pursuing an understanding in this complicated area. Moore's effort, involving a response to approaches from officials within the tricky world of our national security apparatus, has resulted in a lot of negative noise from a few.

Michael Jamieson publishes a newsletter of UFO inquiry, "Five Digit-Four Digit Handshake."

Lee Graham

Lee Graham—

I have received a number of requests as to my knowledge of the MJ-12 documentation [which gained some credence and visibility from the activities of Moore and his colleagues]. Your preoccupation with "bad-mouthing" Moore does *not* give the public the kinds of answers to the questions I am being asked by your readers. Why are you afraid to tell the truth?

Lee Graham pursues UFO truth through the FOIA.

Vicki Cooper—

If we knew the whole truth, *UFO* would certainly not hesitate to tell it. As it stands, the keepers of the UFO "truth," as it were, and of such potential fabrications as the MJ-12 documentation, are hiding behind untrustworthy henchmen and apologists for "national security," and the dark shadows cast by their secrecy compulsions. I submit that Moore put the blinders on when he chose to be part of their disinformation campaign, in his assumption that "exposure of this . . . chicanery places us in the strongest position we have ever enjoyed." Who's he kidding? Does strength in our maligned field come from the arrogant assumption that we can beat these guys at their own game? On the contrary. Our window of vulnerability then becomes a floodgate!

A reasonable speculation holds that such a countermove with the open intent of exposing secrets only leads ufology's intelligence-connected adversaries to implement stronger, more clandestine, increasingly sophisticated and insidious tactics in order to minimize the risk of such exposure. Or they will manipulate whatever operational "leaks" do occur, and maybe the leakers, for their own questionable ends.

By these actions, the intelligence operatives are not only able to construct deeper and more impenetrable layers of confusion and disinformation around the UFO issue; the laughter curtain which already obfuscates the UFO subject provides them with a well-insulated playing field on which to practice their sensitive espionage-counterespionage games—possibly increasing proficiency in the international arena where much more is at stake.

It must be clearly stated that the ethical issue is the best real question those of us in the private sector have at our disposal. Yet the real issue is not *Moore's* actual role and motivations, but the role, true identities and agenda of those with whom he is dealing, and who are, by his own admission, government/military officials. They remain hidden. Moore chooses to be an informant and run interference for them. Anyone consciously acting as a middleman for

Vicki Cooper

secret intelligence operations can expect nothing less than the reactions he's receiving.

It is obvious and admitted by Moore that he has not dealt just with the anti-secrecy bunch. He has dealt with the others responsible for Paul Bennewitz' own confusion and disintegration. In that sense, Moore has performed as a double agent, willingly assisting those who were out to defuse Bennewitz. He did this with zero accountability to his more straightforward colleagues in the UFO field. For one who loudly proclaims the need for high standards in ufology, that's mighty strange behavior indeed.

Moore recently disclosed the names of other researchers whom he says have been subjected to similar government subterfuge. How long has Moore been aware of their victimization? Did he ever tell them?

Most news reporters, radio broadcasters and food suppliers, and especially the publishers of *UFO* Magazine, are *not* in business solely to turn a profit. I cannot speak for anyone else, but one of OUR prime motivations is to disenfranchise the pernicious covert operations overlaid on UFO research.

Journalist Vicki Cooper lives in Los Angeles, where she edits ***UFO Magazine*** *with co-publisher Sherie Stark.*

Robert Smith—

I read *UFO*'s article on William Moore's "disinformation ploy." I offer this point of view for consideration: Let's assume that our government was and/or is involved in a secret treaty with the aliens, where they (the government) have allowed the aliens to abduct humans and mutilate cattle in return for their technology. If this information started leaking out to the general populace, what better method could they use to refute it than to deliberately set someone up to reveal identical information and then later deny it as a hoax?

I'd like to make one other point. I've noticed that some UFO researchers intentionally or unintentionally lump all extraterrestrials into the category of those who carry out abductions. The universe is a very large place and the extraterrestrials coming here probably have many different planetary, cultural, sociological, spiritual and ethical backgrounds. Keep in mind that while some are abducting humans against their will, others come to stress the importance of love, cooperation, unity and brotherhood among mankind.

Robert Smith is a concerned reader of this magazine.

Sally Sheridan—

I was in the audience when William Moore gave his presentation at the 1989 MUFON Conference in Las Vegas. Naively I was hoping he might do or say something to fulfill his years of promises to show us his evidence; perhaps he would screen the much-touted videotape of the interview with the living EBE.

I *said* I was naive; Moore spent the first 20 minutes or so self-righteously denying the rumors that he was in league with government agents or was one himself. He then launched into a story of how he knowingly, (and apparently willingly, since he showed no remorse) participated in an intelligence campaign to divert and disinform Paul Ben-

newitz, which might as well have been a campaign of destruction.

Two things began to go through my mind as he continued to talk for another 90 minutes. First: How could a seemingly decent investigator find himself in such a position as he did in 1980, a position of serious or even grave moral and ethical choices being presented? I realize here that I am projecting my own thought patterns on another person who might not perceive the situation in moral terms at all.

My second thought was, "Is this behavior to be accepted as standard or normal behavior from UFO investigators from now on?" Both MUFON and CUFOS have Codes of Ethics, as well they should. Are these to be thrown out? If any of the rest of us were to mimic Moore's behavior, would it be tolerated? Or is Moore somehow in a special category?

Pondering these matters over the following days and weeks, I realized the first question was easy to answer. UFO investigators, even the minor ones like myself, are presented with moral dilemmas continually in the course of investigations. I have had three recent cases, for example, in which illegal drugs were a factor. In each case, I was faced with a moral issue. Investigators have to face such issues often. We need to be very careful and remember that we are not on a "Mission from God." We have no special license to break or even bend the law, or to infringe on the constitutional rights of witnesses *or* other investigators—as I feel Bill Moore did in the Bennewitz affair.

I wish to emphasize that I don't blame Moore for being in that situation to start with. It literally could happen to any of us. The questions are: What are the rules once you are in that position? ARE there any rules? Do the same ethical rules apply to everyone? I say yes. There are rules, and they apply to everyone. They are simple rules combined with human decency combined with the Bill of Rights.

The second issue to ponder—is this to become the accepted standard of behavior for investigators?—is explored in the following essay.

Are we living or about to live through extraordinary times in the history of mankind?

Let's assume for the moment that we are. The rumors and tone of the more recent UFO literature have become deadly serious. It isn't much fun anymore to be a UFO investigator.

I keep thinking about the people living in Western Europe during the Nazi era, the people in Amsterdam at the time Anne Frank's family was in hiding. I wonder if *I* would have had the courage to hide them; I wonder about that a lot.

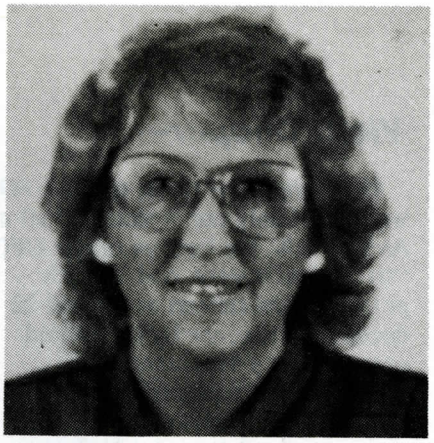
Today we scrutinize the behavior of people who lived through that time. We praise and admire the ones who have behaved courageously; we are contemptuous of the ones who did not.

It is my belief that we investigators may be living through a time when similarly enormous stresses—and yes, dangers—may threaten us. For that reason, I think we should all consider carefully how to proceed. All of us should think about how far we are willing to go to get credit for piercing the Ultimate UFO Secret, for breaking the Big Story.

QUESTION: How far would you go if you were reasonably certain of being the single investigator who would be able to break the UFO mystery and get the credit for doing so?

Betrayal

1. Would you betray a stranger or acquaintance (Example: divulging a name you promised to keep secret)?
2. Would you betray a close friend?
3. Would you betray another investigator?
4. Would you betray a member of your family?
5. Would you risk possible harm to a stranger or acquaintance?
6. Would you risk possible harm to a close friend?
7. Would you risk possible harm to another investigator?
8. Would you risk possible harm to a member of your family?
9. Would you CAUSE harm to a stranger or an acquaintance?
10. Would you CAUSE harm to a close friend?
11. Would you CAUSE harm to another investigator?
12. Would you CAUSE harm to a member of your family?



Sally Sheridan

Scoring

There is only one right answer. NO to all of the above, without any equivocation!

Whatever the future holds, we must experience and construct it as decently and ethically as we possibly can. I believe that no secret, not even this one, is so important that we have to get to it by stepping on our brothers and sisters. No times are so stressful that it becomes acceptable to betray, risk or knowingly cause harm to a fellow human being.

At the beginning of this essay, I assumed that we are living through, or are about to live through, extraordinary times. I really don't know if this assumption is true.

And what if it isn't? What if *none* of the "aliens making deals with the government" material—as trumpeted by such researchers as Paul Bennewitz, John Lear, Bill Cooper—and perhaps, at least by association, Moore also—has any degree of truth?

What if the world just goes on with its mundane problems?

In that case, if we've justified a "yes" answer to any question or questions in the above quiz, we've betrayed, risked, and/or caused harm to others for *nothing*.

But either way, if the story is real or not, ethics matter. They matter a lot, because living in dangerous times does not excuse us from the the responsibility and obligation to act ethically.

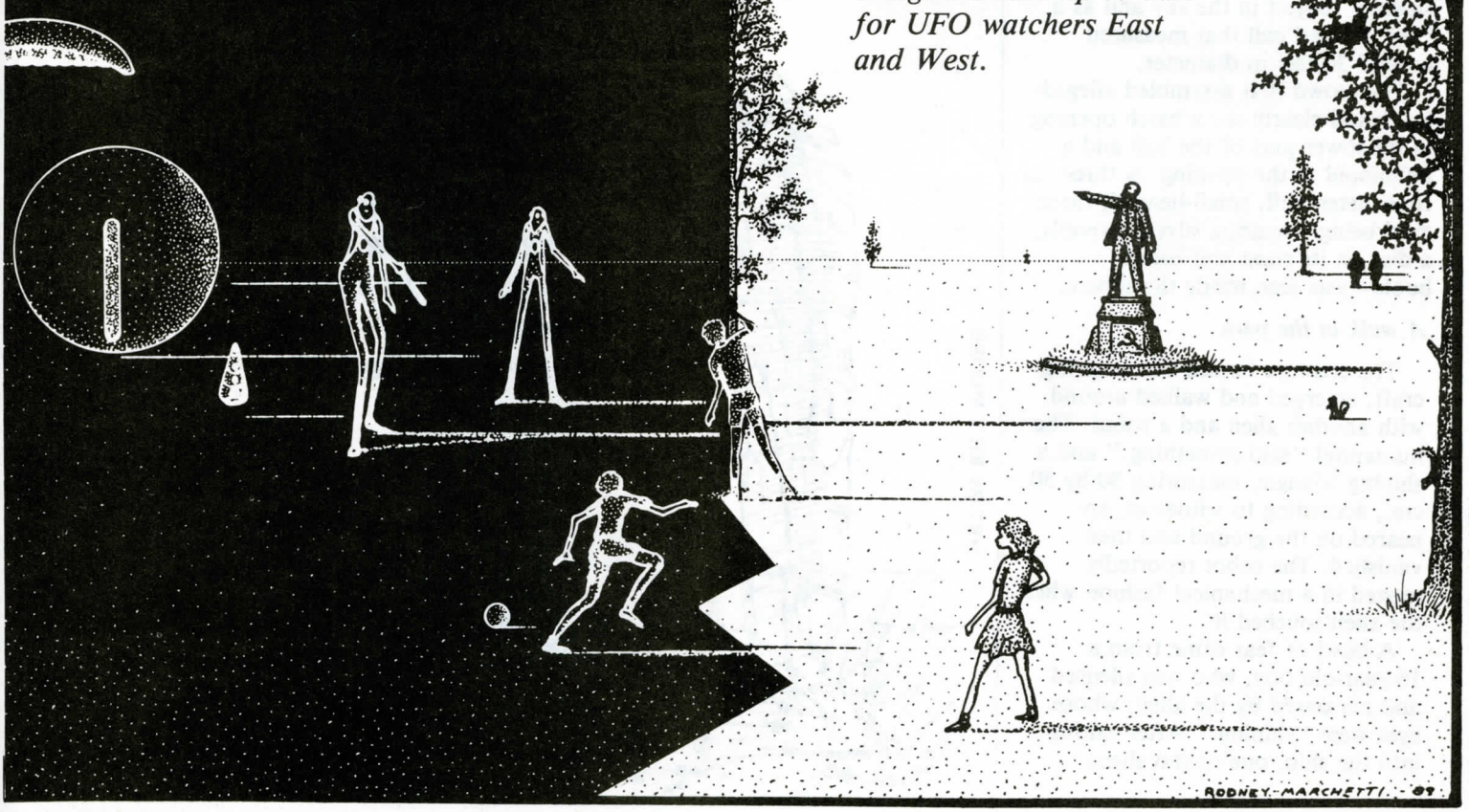
Sally Sheridan is an investigator with the Center for UFO Studies and state section director for the Yuma County, Arizona chapter of MUFON. A special contributor to the ParaNet computer information system, she is currently researching the connection between UFOs and the cultural and religious tradition of Tibet.

Historians will look back at the late 1980s and early '90s as the time when the Communist dominoes began to fall. Caught in a blissful hurricane of freedom, both in act as well as thought, people in the Eastern Bloc have begin to sense some truth about life and government in their countries, and in the world. As it would be for children at play in the park, right now fun is all there is, for the lucky ones.

In the Soviet Union, where the keepers of oppression may feel the keenest sense of impending doom from these incredible changes, a fiesty press and news-hungry population have elevated a single UFO sighting into a slice of social commentary. The events at Voronezh caught the passing fancy of citizens everywhere.

But pass, it did. Not a breath of news has been heard from Voronezh since (unless you want to count the tabloid revelation that 27 of the town's citizens were abducted and flown to the Aleutian Islands!).

The following special section, a compilation of reports and opinion from ufology, brings the case up to date for UFO watchers East and West.



ART BY RODNEY MARCHETTI

Incident at Voronezh

By Mark Chorvinsky and Douglas Chapman

The official Russian press agency Tass and the popular Soviet newspaper, *Sovetskya Kultura,* have reported to the world that on the "warm autumn evening" of Sept. 27, 1989, three schoolchildren in Voronezh (300 miles southeast of Moscow), saw a large, pink, banana-shaped object shining in the sky. A highly unusual series of events followed, which everyone seemed to hear about in the next few days. Picked up by the wire services on Oct. 10, the report quickly made the media rounds.

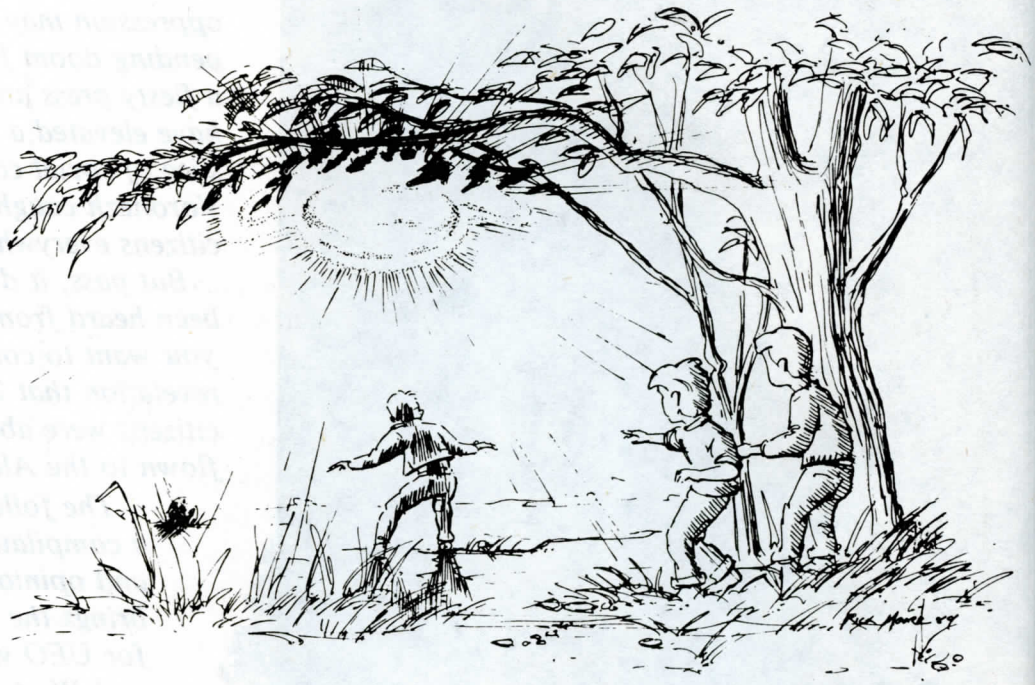
The previously staid Tass claimed that Vasya Surin, Zhenya Blinov and Yuliya Sholokova were playing soccer at about 6:30 p.m. in the city park, where they witnessed what has been variously described as a "pink shining" object in the sky and as a "red colored ball that measured around 30 feet in diameter.

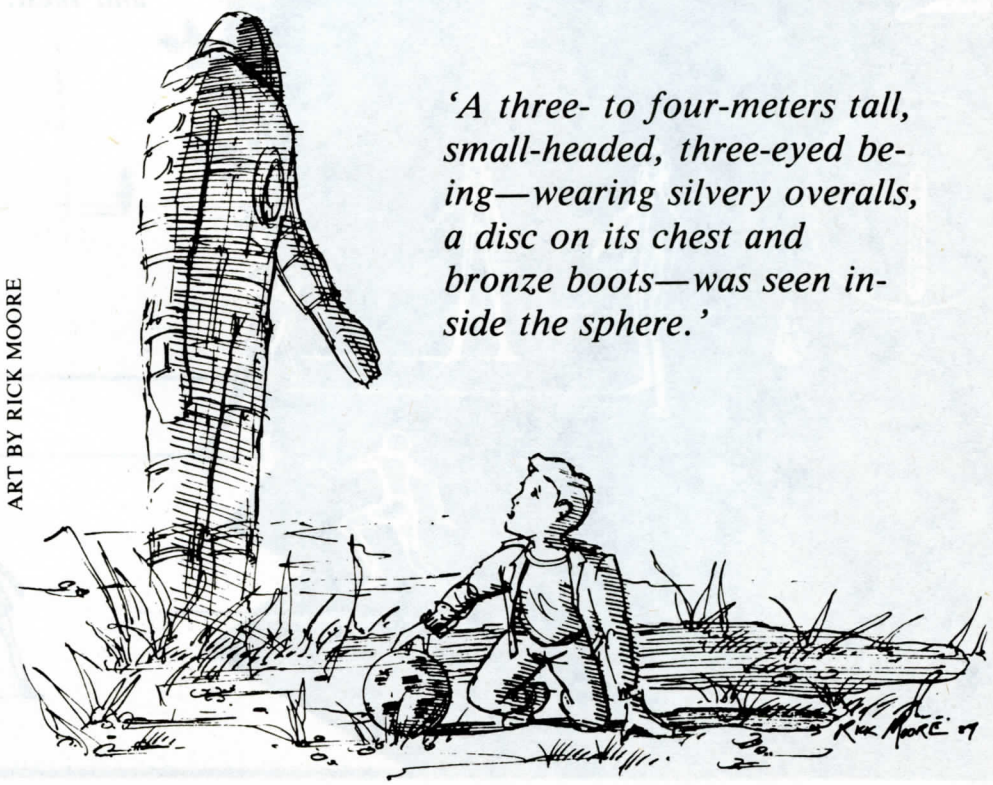
The crowd that assembled allegedly "could clearly see a hatch opening in the lower part of the ball and a humanoid in the opening. A three- to four-meters tall, small-headed, three-eyed being—wearing silvery overalls, a disc on its chest and bronze boots—was seen inside the sphere.

A walk in the park

The creature landed the hovering craft, emerged and walked around with another alien and a robot. The humanoid "said something," and a shining triangle, measuring 30 by 50 cm., according to witnesses, appeared on the ground and then vanished. The robot reportedly moved in a mechanical fashion when the alien touched it.

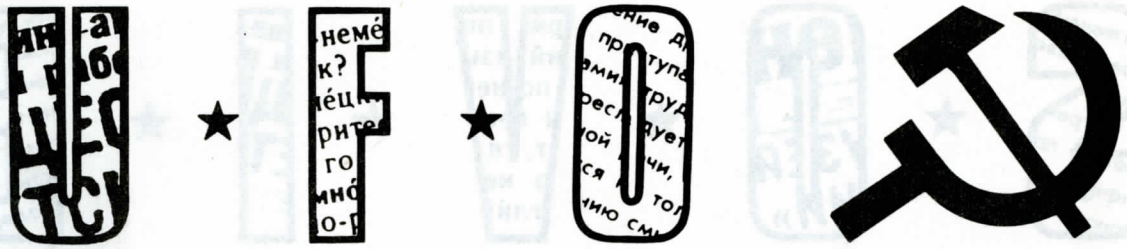
A howl of fear came from a 16-year-old boy, who was silenced and paralyzed by the alien, whose eyes were "shining." After exiting into the ship, one of the aliens





'A three- to four-meters tall, small-headed, three-eyed being—wearing silvery overalls, a disc on its chest and bronze boots—was seen inside the sphere.'

ART BY RICK MOORE



DATE: 09 Oct 89
SOURCE: TASS
HEADLINE: Confirmed UFO Landing in Voronezh, Witnesses Frightened
DATELINE: VORONEZH

Scientists have confirmed that an unidentified flying object recently landed in a park in the Russian city of Voronezh.

They have also identified the landing site and found traces of aliens who made a short promenade about the park.

Aliens visited the place after dark, at least three times, locals report.

A large, shining ball or disk was seen hovering above the park, it then landed, a hatch opened and one, two or three creatures similar to humans and a small robot came out.

The aliens were three or even four meters high, but with very small heads, witnesses say.

They walked near the ball or disc and then disappeared inside. Onlookers were overwhelmed with a fear which lasted for several days.

"We identified the landing site by means of bilocation," Genrikh Silanov, head of the Voronezh Geophysical Laboratory said in an interview.

"We detected a circle 20 meters in diameter. Four 4-5 centimeter deep dents, each with a diameter of 14-16 centimeters were clearly visible, they are situated in the four points of a rhomb. We found two mysterious pieces of rock.

"At first glance they looked like sandstone of a deep red color. However, mineralogical analysis has shown that the substance cannot be found on earth. However, additional tests are needed to reach a more definite conclusion."

Silanov used bilocation to trace the earthly trail of the aliens. Witnesses were not informed about the experiment, but the route along which the aliens walked as described by the onlookers and the one established scientifically coincided.

Many also claim to have seen a banana-shaped object in the sky and a characteristic illuminated sign, as described in the U.S. Saga magazine. It is unlikely that residents of Voronezh could have read the magazine.

—ORIGINAL TASS REPORT—

returned to the scene with a 50 cm. long tubular "gun" by his side. He pointed the device at the teenager, who vanished. When the aliens later left in their "ball," the boy reappeared.

Interviewed on the Soviet TV program *Vremya*, Vasya Surin, one of the child witnesses, described the humanoids as having no real "head and shoulders," but rather a "bump." The entity is said to have had two eyes on either side of its bump and one in the middle, which it was able to move to the left, right and up-and-down (compensating, apparently, for the visual limitations of having no true, moveable head).

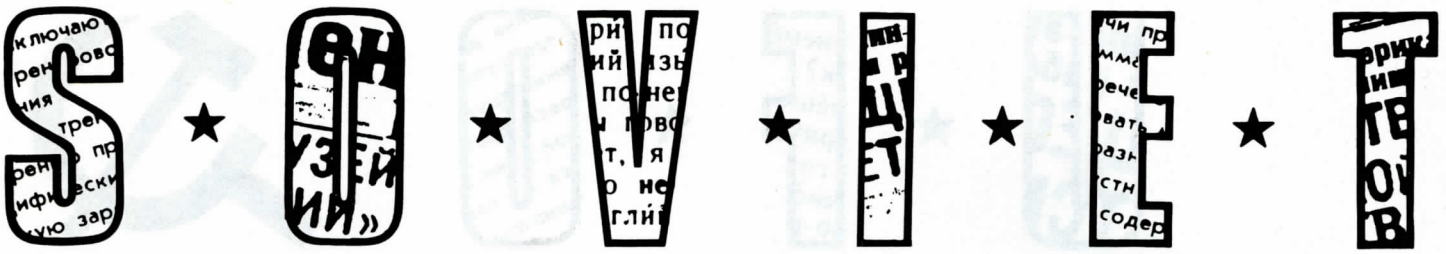
Other 3-eyed aliens

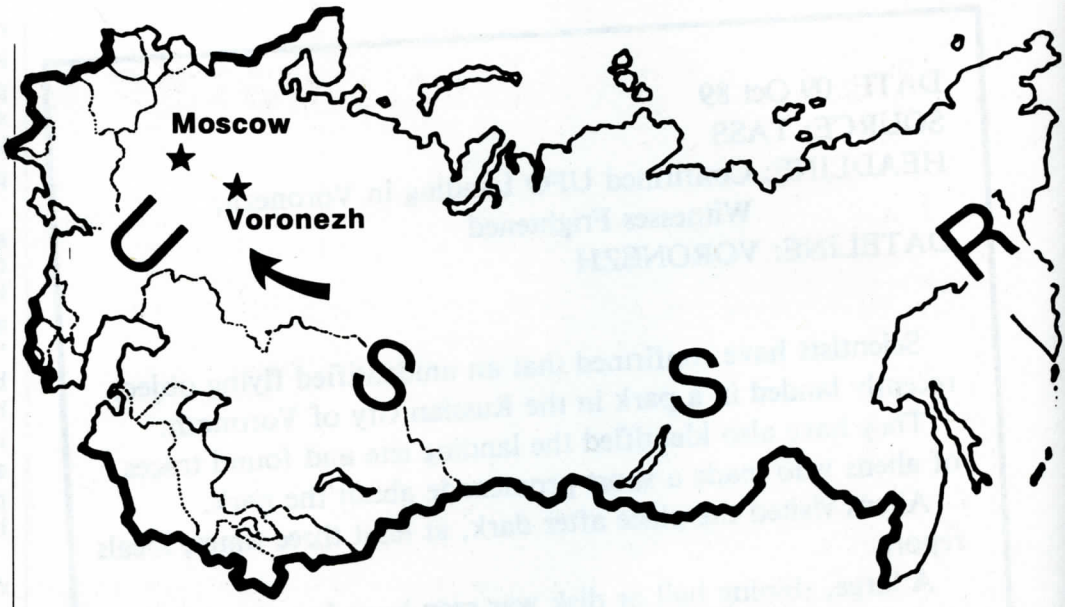
This case is not the first in which a reported humanoid had three eyes. In his book ***The Humanoids***, Gordon Creighton, editor of Britain's respected *Flying Saucer Review*, lists an Argentinian case from July, 1962, in which Ricardo Mieres sighted a giant entity with "three eyes which stared fixedly, without blinking." Surin also claimed the alien had two holes instead of a nose, a common element in humanoid sightings.

When phoned about this unusual Tass story, Vladimir Lebedev, the correspondent covering the case, told of conversations with dozens of witnesses and some "experts" who were investigating the case. He claimed that between Sept. 23 and 29, there were three landings of the UFO. He also revealed that when asked to depict the craft, the children had all independently drawn banana-shaped objects.

The object reportedly left the letter "X" in the sky after disappearing. In the park, Lebedev himself had seen what he thought were landing traces that "resembled the footprints of an elephant."

Voronezh Police Lt. Sergei A Matveyev claims to have seen a "body flying in the sky" on the evening of Sept. 27, 1989, which, he





said, moved silently at a low altitude but with great speed—an apparent confirmation of at least the UFO. Matveyev said he was skeptical until he sighted the object himself. According to Voronezh police officers, witness accounts were identical.

Reports quoted Genrikh Silanov of the Voronezh Geophysical Laboratory about his examination of a circle 20 meters in diameter, and four deep dents of 4-5 cm. depth, with a diameter of 16 cm. Silanov "explained" that the scientific team "identified the landing site by means of bi-location" (a form of dowsing), and described the discovery of mysterious "rocks." In a statement full of hyperbole, Silanov reported that, "At first glance [the rocks] looked like sandstone of a deep red color. However, mineralogical analysis has shown that the substance cannot be found on earth." The rocks later turned out to be a very earthly hematite, which is found in the USSR.

'According to one Russian scientist, there are 50 amateur ufological groups in the USSR—and the number increases with each sighting.'

Skepticism

The Yugoslav News Agency Tanjug expressed skepticism at the Tass and *Sovetskya Kultura* report on the "Russian UFO invasion," wondering about the lack of reaction from the Soviet Defense Ministry. Others point out that not everyone in the park witnessed something. Some have already discounted the case due to its high strangeness elements and the fact that most of the observers were children, who are potentially problematic witnesses. The variation in descriptions of the size of the ship (from 10 to 30 meters in diameter) and its shape (which has most often been described as a sphere or banana) do not inspire confidence, but may be the result of reporter and witness error and miscalculation. There are other discrepancies that have to be considered, such as the exact number of aliens that were reported (from one to three) and their size (from nine to 12 feet tall). *Vremya* also noted skeptically that no adult witnesses have been found to corroborate the children's report.

It should be mentioned that four UFOs sighted in the week of the Voronezh incident have been identified, according to Tanjug, commenting that the case took place in an atmosphere of uforia in the USSR and was not an isolated incident.

Ufology 'booming'

The Communist party youth newspaper has published UFO photos recently. According to Russian scientist Vladimir Azhazhei, interest in ufology is "booming" in the USSR, and recent sightings have mushroomed. Clearly, though, UFO sightings have been repressed in the USSR and, perhaps as a result of *glasnost*, the floodgates now have opened and UFO reports are pouring out of the Soviet Union. Azazhei estimates that there are 50 amateur ufological groups in the USSR, and the number increases with each new sighting.

Tass insists that the Voronezh case is neither a hoax, a joke nor a publicity gimmick to bolster tourist trade. Vladimir A. Moiseyev, director of the regional health department, and other authorities in Voronezh, as well as Tass, have treated the account as "a serious scientific phenomenon," according to *New York Times* Moscow correspondent Esther B. Fein.

Mr. Larin, duty officer at the local Interior Ministry Department, said that if the aliens appear again, troops would be dispatched. Director Moiseyev explained that no witnesses had requested medical assistance, adding, "Certainly we are planning to examine the children."

Mark Chorvinsky publishes Strange Magazine, and Douglas Chapman is the publication's executive editor.

Russians Captivated by Ufology

By T. Scott Crain

If the children are examined—no reports of that have yet surfaced—it's uncertain just who would be doing the examining.

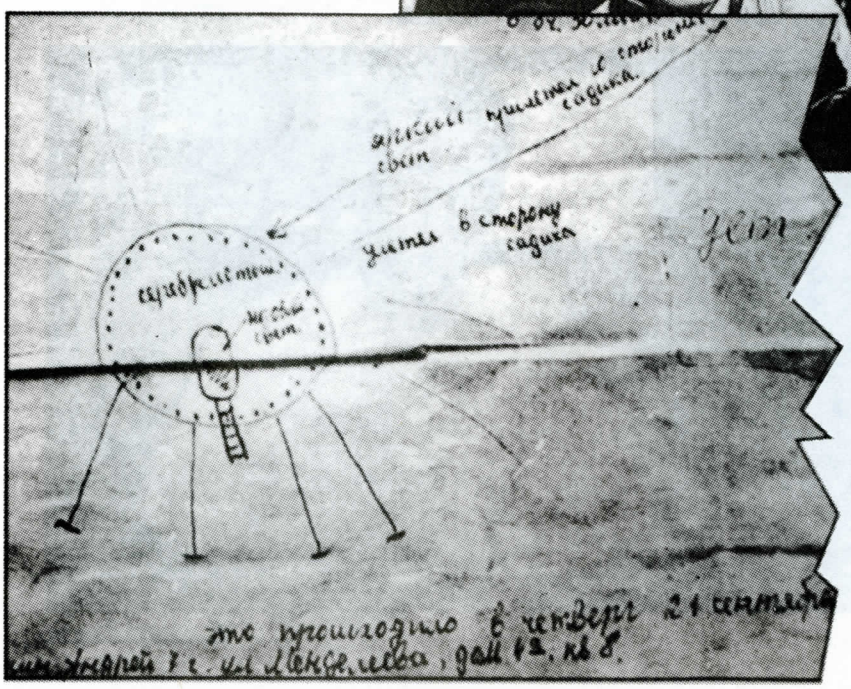
Moscow scientist Vladimir Azhazhei told a reporter for the Communist Party youth newspaper recently that in the past, UFO research was confined to "bourgeois" scientists, but today overall Soviet interest in the subject is booming. In the Oct. 9 issue of the paper, Azhazhei said that numerous UFO sightings have been made recently, and that besides the establishment of UFO research centers by Soviet scientists in Moscow, Leningrad and Perm, a UFO exhibit was set up by some Soviet businessmen in September at the Arbat pedestrian mall. Customers were charged 50 cents to see the exhibit, he said.

All this pro-UFO activity by Soviets doesn't necessarily give the Voronezh landing merit. Several questionable issues can be raised regarding the case's validity. For instance, why did Tass initially refuse to identify the reporter who filed the story? Did they fear further questioning by the American press would uncover irregularities in his story?

'Two dozen witnesses'

As it is, the Tass reporter was identified; Vladimir Lebedev claimed there were two dozen witnesses to the reported landing—his sources were principally children—but no scientists, government officials or militiamen. Asked whether he believed the youngsters' story, Lebedev said, "I think there is a certain portion of truth, but it is not excluded that there is also fantasizing . . . Mature people may have added certain things," he went on to explain.

Tass apparently knew the account of the UFO landing would be questioned, and stated that the sightings

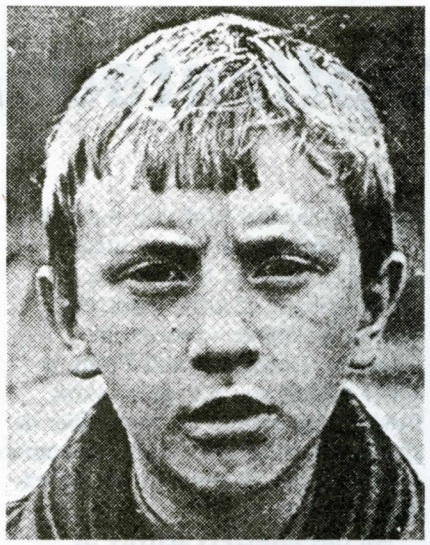


UFOS 'R' US—The tabloids say these are the Soviet kids who made Voronezh famous by seeing UFO aliens. One of their drawings, below.

at Voronezh are very similar to the ones reported in the American magazine *Saga*. If Tass thinks they are boosting the credibility of their sighting by comparing it to descriptions of UFOs in a defunct American adventure magazine, it was a mistake.

Finally, the aliens' description at the Voronezh landing has a remarkable similarity to an alleged alien encounter that was reported last summer by a milkmaid in Russia's Perm region. The encounter appeared in the Soviet daily, ***Socialist Industry***. The witness, Lyubov Medvedev, was quoted as saying she saw an alien creature "resembling a man, but taller than average with short legs." The creature had "only a small knob instead of a head," she claimed.

Stories of the occult and supernatural are a hit with Russian readers. Discouraging news about the Russian economy or crime is less in-



Vasya Surin, one of the Soviet youngsters who reported UFOs.

teresting than reports of abominable snowmen or banana-shaped UFOs buzzing the skies. To newspaper publishers both East and West, stories like these may be seen to enhance the popularity of the publication.

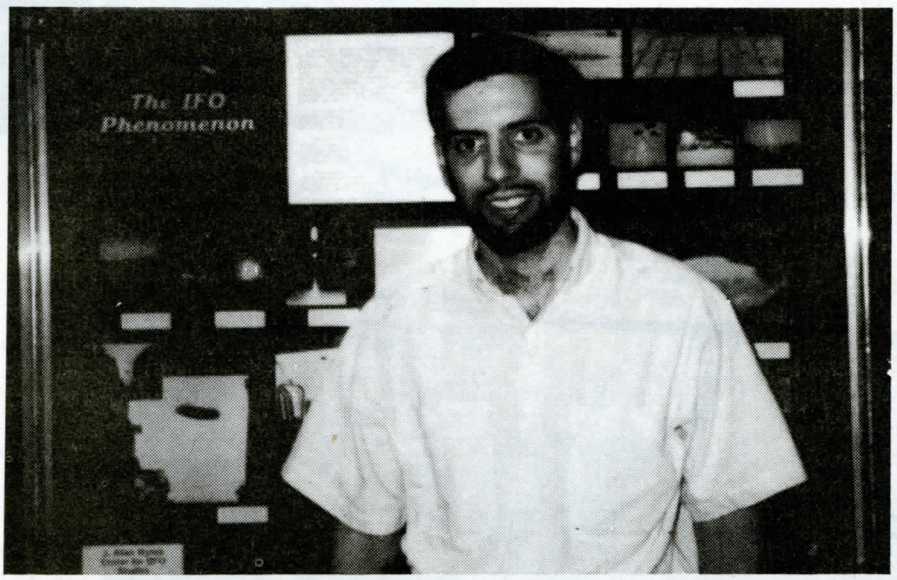
'The bottom line'

Although Soviet authorities are currently permitting these admittedly superfluous stories into their media, it is generally believed that the Soviet government takes UFO reports seriously, and at the very least, uses the information about UFOs to their advantage in dealing with the West.

The June, 1989 issue of ***Soviet Military Review*** made an interesting link between UFOs and America's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI). According to the article, U.S. space lasers will not be able to distinguish between a UFO and a missile, and if it's a UFO, it may get fired upon, or worse yet, we may think it's the Russians and fire on them by mistake. The moral of the story is that America should stop conducting "Star Wars" research—somebody might get hurt.

The Russians also may be using UFO stories as a diversion to cover up secret space launches and their own version of SDI testing. The KGB has a well-oiled disinformation apparatus that can fabricate and disseminate all types of physical data and misleading information to an unknowing public. CIA experts estimate Russia spends nearly $4 billion annually on disinformation, and UFO stories are certainly in the picture.

T. Scott Crain is a UFO researcher and writer from Port Matilda, Pennsylvania.



T. Scott Crain

Ufological 'Deja Vu'

News Coverage Reaches New Low

By Stanton T. Friedman

The Tass News agency account of the recent UFO landing in the Soviet Union turned back the clock for some of us old timers. The amount of media time and space devoted to the story was quite extraordinary. The quality and tone of the coverage reached new lows for incompetence and silliness reminiscent of an earlier age. I cannot pass judgement on the specfic case; certainly no scientist like me would use a newspaper story as a basis for judgement. One needs an investigative report, which is not available here. Obviously I would also not pass judgement on a scientific "breakthrough" without reading the basic papers. The recent fuss about "cold fusion" certainly demonstrated the ignorance of the press, the lack of proper questions and a lack of doing relevant homework. Past big noises about the supposedly great health benefit of reducing cholesterol intake are another example.

Unfortunately, it *is* possible to judge the U.S. journalistic community. It flunks the test. This should be no surprise to anyone who has read Dr. Herbert Strentz' Ph.D. thesis—on press coverage of UFOs—from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University in 1970. He studied many thousands of clippings, did surveys, etc. This quote gives a fair idea of his conclusions:

"The high degree of ridicule present in the UFO phenomenon was reflected in the press coverage . . . The coverage has been marked by superficiality, redundancy, silliness, careless reporting, and a lack of relevant information . . . The lack of relevant information was also attributable to the reluctance of the press to ferret out information about the phenomenon and those involved in it." (Strentz, Herbert: *A Survey of Press Coverage of Unidentified Flying Objects, 1947-1966,* c. 1970.)

ART BY RICK MOORE

The total failure to dig out relevant information and to substitute for facts a wretched kind of armchair theorizing about *glasnost* and tabloid sensationalism in the Soviet Union were frankly disgusting and totally unjustified, as noted below. The real worry is: in how many other areas of coverage are we being fed silly nonsense instead of facts?

Landing traces

With regard to the question of UFO landings, Ted Phillips, of Reed's Spring Missouri, has collected more than 4,127 physical trace cases from 65 countries. About 24 percent of these cases (which involve the observation of UFOs on or near the ground and, after their departure, the observation of changes equivalent to burn circles, swirled vegetation, landing gear marks, etc.) included reports of creatures associated with the craft. How dare the Voronezh story be played as though no UFO had ever been observed to land, produce physical changes and have creatures get out? About 100 of Phillips' landing cases are from the Soviet Union!

For more than a decade, there has been a serious interest by Soviet scientists in UFOs. This is easily

RUSHIN'—A UFO photo that appeared in the Soviet ***Sputnik****.*

demonstrated. It is incredible that the tone of coverage was that this was silly season again, when in fact a major effort has been made in the Soviet Union to seriously investigate the UFO phenomenon. Specifically:

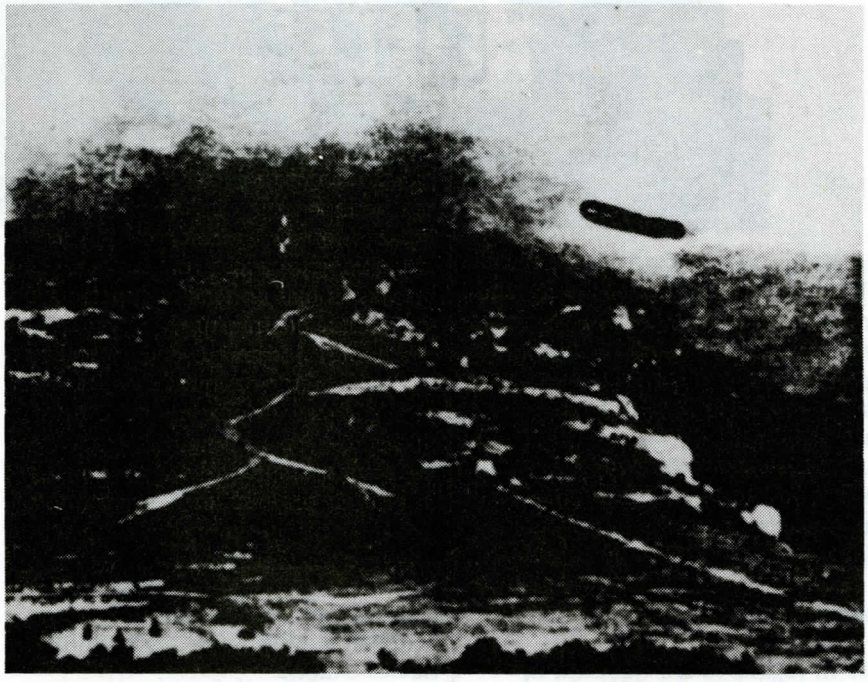
1. In 1979, the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences Institute of Space Research published a 74-page report, "Observations of Anomalous Atmospheric Phenomena in the U.S.S.R.: Statistical Analysis." The authors were associated with the Shternberg State Astronomical Institute, the Moscow Engineering Physics Institute, and the Institute of Space Research. The study was translated by NASA in 1980. It is a serious effort to review 256 reports of observations of UFOs in the U.S.S.R.

These reports had been compiled by Dr. Felix Zigel of the Moscow Aviation Institute. A Russian-language version of the compilation was received in the U.S. in the early 1970s. In 1973, I had the report translated by Allan Sandler and Robert Emenegger, who were then preparing the first of what was supposed to be a series of three TV programs on UFOs, with official backing from the government and including a trip to the Soviet Union. The translation was actually done by the U.S. government, using then-classified techniques of machine translation with optical scanning.

'Low Key' Tone

The tone of the 1979 report is low key and careful. There are more than 20 figures and 20 tables of information. The fact that a great many of the reports come from professional people is stressed, along with the fact that many of the reports had multiple witnesses and lasted for minutes rather than seconds. They compare their findings with those of similar studies done in the West, and it is concluded that there is a type of phenomenon with stable statistical properties. It is an excellent piece of work. It is interesting that one of the senior authors is Lev. M. Gindilis, who was the Secretary of the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence section of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. Also, he has been quoted extensively in internal Soviet publications about his acceptance of the notion that while most UFO sightings can be explained, 20-25 percent defy explanation and might well represent extraterrestrial visitations.

'In fact, the Soviets have made a major effort to seriously investigate the UFO phenomenon.'



BANANA—This photo of a cylindrical UFO resembling a pickle or banana was used to illustrate an article that ran in the ***Soviet Military Review****, official military journal and propaganda vehicle for the West.*

2. In 1984, it was publicly announced (and noted by Reuters News Service) that the Soviet Union has established a Commission on Anomalous Atmospheric Phenomena. It was headed by Vsevolod Troitsky, a member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. Vice Chairman Pavel Popovich is not only a general, but also a well-established cosmonaut who has made

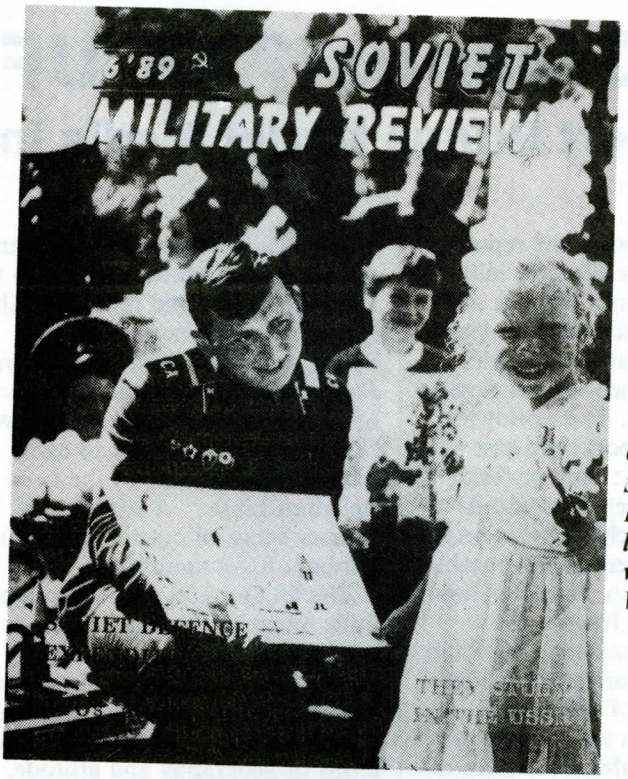
several trips into space. The formation of this organization was stimulated by a major UFO sighting over the city of Gorky. Publicity by the CAAP resulted in the submission of 25,000 UFO reports, of which 5,000 remain unexplained.

3. From April 18 through 25, 1988, a conference attended by more than 300 scientists concerned with UFO research was held in the city of Tomsk, in the region of Siberia. It was officially sponsored by the Academy of Sciences. There have also been several regional, smaller conferences of serious scientific investigators in the year and one-half since then.

4. The official Soviet military journal, ***Soviet Military Review***, had a cover story in its June, 1989 issue of its English version, entitled "UFOs and Security," which recounts some of this serious, professional activity in the Soviet Union, France and elsewhere, and also notes that one of the requirements for a "Star Wars" system, i.e., our Strategic Defense Initiative, is that it be able to rapidly distinguish between a UFO and somebody else's missiles. This, the article suggested, might not be easy.

Tabloid myth

Finally, almost all of the coverage implied that only readers of supermarket tabloids believe in the reality of UFOs or are interested in them. This myth has been promulgated by the press and a small group of noisy negativist scientists and debunkers for decades. It wasn't true then and it isn't true now. Gallup Polls, for example, have consistently shown for more than 20 years that a majority of Americans (typically two-thirds of those who have an opinion) accept the notion that some UFOs are alien spacecraft. In addition, the polls have consistently shown that the greater the education of the respondent, the *more* likely he or she is to accept the notion of alien visitors.



Cover of the Soviet Military Review which linked the UFO with 'Star Wars' warning.

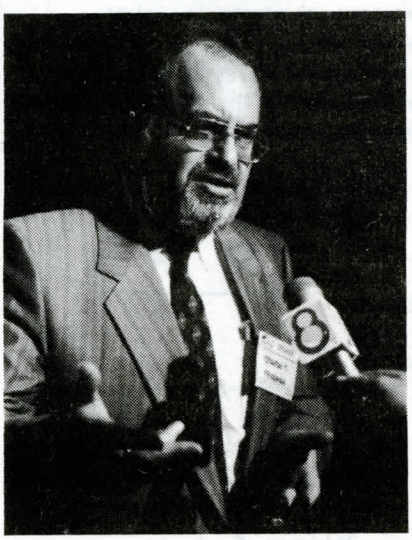
This, of course, completely opposes the standard tone of media.

I suppose I shouldn't be surprised, in view of the following two examples of past misrepresentation by two major news sources:

According to ***Science***, Aug. 20, 1976, "The number of people believing in Flying Saucers remains at about six percent of the adult population, according to the Gallup polls." The *Los Angeles Times* was even more off-base: "A two-year-old Gallup poll reported that more than 3 million Americans believe flying saucers are real. But that still leaves 98 percent of the country somewhat doubtful." (Sept. 27, 1973). Both of these esteemed publications were completely in error, and both refused to publish corrections, even after receiving copies of the relevant Gallup polls.

In my experience as a lecturer on UFOs at more than 600 colleges in 50 states and eight provinces, and as the recipient of thousands of questions after lectures, in classrooms and during interviews, I can state confidently that extreme skepticism toward UFOs is a minority view—albeit a noisy one.

Nuclear Physicist-Ufologist Stanton T. Friedman is a 55-year old American citizen living in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada. He can be reached at (506) 457-0232.



Stanton T. Friedman

Just *Glasnost?* Or UFO Fact?

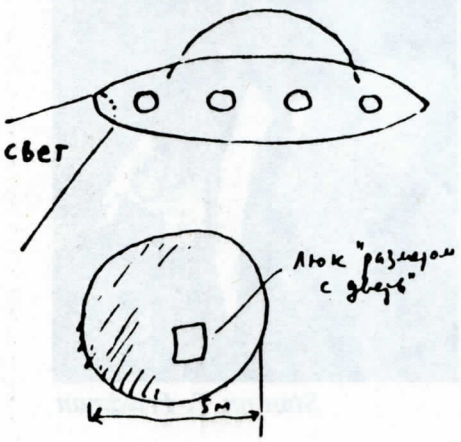
Tass Report Brings Soviet Media Into Clearer Focus

By Vicki Cooper

Vladimir Lebedev, the reporter who is said to have filed the initial story on Russia's most bizarre and publicized UFO encounter to date, has reportedly spent two decades working for the once-somber Soviet news agency, Tass. The worldwide reactions to his report have cast a whole new light not only on Tass, but the entire Soviet press and its role in a radically changing society.

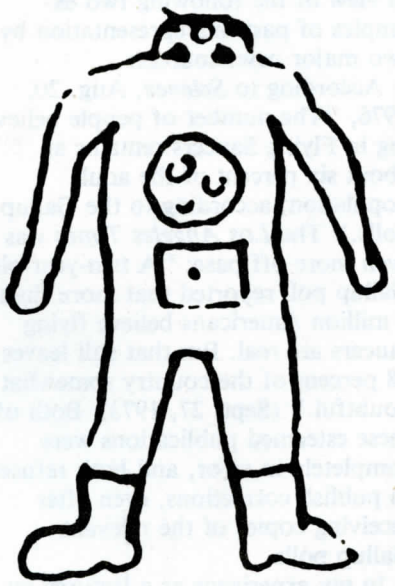
Since the "incident at Voronezh," all bets are off as to what direction Russian media are forging for themselves—and just how much the reliance on corroborated facts determines the quality of UFO reporting in the USSR. Even with emergent press freedom, professional rules of thumb regarding factual accuracy aren't necessarily familiar nor respected by journalists in a communist system.

Regardless of their historical impact, Russia's radical political shifts probably have done little so far to alter Soviet policy when it comes to what's real and what's not in the minds of the Soviet peoples and their Western counterparts—what Westerners will hear about and what they won't. Repression and disinformation are still the major part of the gameplan in Russia.



Russia's fondness for propaganda also appears to have seeped into their UFO reports . . and reporters. Shortly after the Voronezh event, the Soviet newspaper *Komsomolskaya Pravda* published the alien encounter of journalist Pavel Mukhortov, who claims the ET he talked to came from "The Red Star of the Constellation Libra." A red star, of course, being an outstanding visual symbol of Communism.

The UFO report from Voronezh unfortunately has many of the earmarks of a manufactured case. Along with factual inconsistencies and lack of evidence, the case's enormous distance from the U.S., both in terms of geography and attitude, made the data extremely vulnerable to significant gaps, twists and alterations before reaching American eyes.



PENCILLED IN—Several children supplied reporters with sketched impressions of their claimed close encounter with UFO aliens.

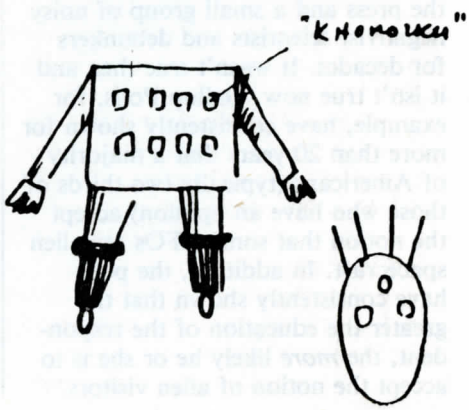
(One item, ostensibly being followed up by researcher Jacques Vallee, alleges that the first Western translations of the Tass report, which appeared in Europe, mistakenly substituted "meters" for "feet"—that the reported aliens visiting Voronezh were actually much shorter than the giants we first heard about! Vallee could not be reached for comment.)

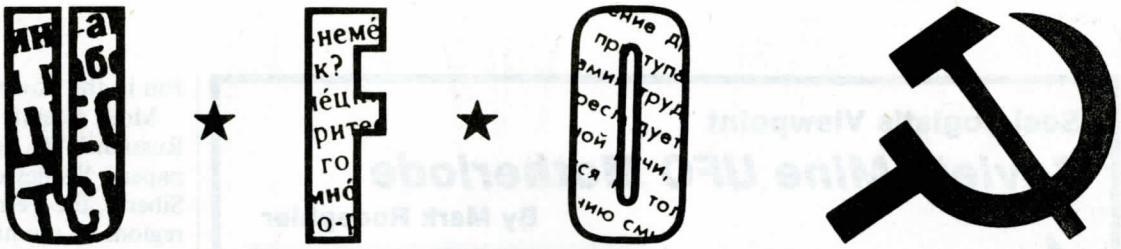
Lebedev's own reportorial candor highlights the inordinate likelihood of confabulation. He eventually admitted that his sources for the story which rocked the wires on Oct. 9, 10 and 11 were children—the oldest was 13—and that some fantasy and elaboration may have taken the Voronezh UFO incident far from the realm of pure truth.

Though Tass veteran Lebedev believes that the kids' sighting was fact, perhaps his colleagues disagree. "Personally, I am not convinced of anything," stated Andre Sidorin, a Tass correspondent based in San Francisco. "I cannot imagine why these stories appeared."

Secretive mindset

Sidorin's skeptical attitude might reflect the relatively closed and secretive Soviet mindset, despite





glasnost, that dampens all aspects of their society. Predictably, Western media quickly developed a conventional wisdom regarding Voronezh, that the story represented the liberating salve of *glasnost* warming up Soviet media. As true as it may be, that conventional wisdom came with an underlying assumption promulgated by most Western journalists: that this case of *glasnost* gone strange didn't represent the increasing openness and number of facts, good and bad, coming out of the Soviet press. No. All it really meant was a definite streak of tabloidization polluting the media—even the staid Tass. Inquiring comrades want to know!

In an increasingly turbulent superpower country, shaken to its Stalinist roots by the revolutionary democratic reforms exploding throughout the Eastern Bloc, Soviet media are beginning to savor the first tastes of press freedom. They're making what we in the West might consider journalistic mistakes along the way, but rampant tabloid tales are not the full extent of their attempted news coverage. Despite direct rebukes from Gorbachev, some editors of popular Russian publications are daring to speak out the truth—that, for instance, the supposed reforms mandated by *perestroika* are literally not delivering the goods. So, of course, the people— unable to get subsistence needs fulfilled—want diversions. And a press embroiled in *glasnost* will deliver them!

Other UFO incidents

Creeping tabloidization may be the western press' punchiest newshook regarding Voronezh, but it hardly ranks as the last word on UFO events in Russia. Tass in fact *has* released other UFO reports. On Jan. 30, 1985, the Soviet news agency released a report on an airborne sighting case. On an unspecified date, Aeroflot Flt. 8352 encountered an unidentified object approximately 120 km. from Minsk. The report, with many startling details, was first

UMMO Comes to USSR?

One child's drawing of the alleged craft shows something which is already familiar to UFO research. In the center of the sketch, a mark popularly known as the UMMO symbol appears.

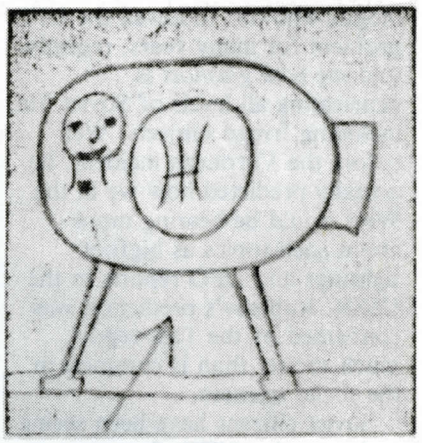
From the mid-'60s and well into the '70s, European researchers, mostly in Spain, were flooded with letters and documents bearing this symbol, allegedly from ETs who came from the planet UMMO. Much of it was technically accurate and philosophically erudite, enough to cause a big stir even in official circles.

From subsequent research by Jacques Vallee and others, it has been determined that the UMMO affair was most likely an ultra-sophisticated intelligence operation by forces unknown. Years ago, Vallee made a curious connection which may—just may—have something to tell us about Voronezh:

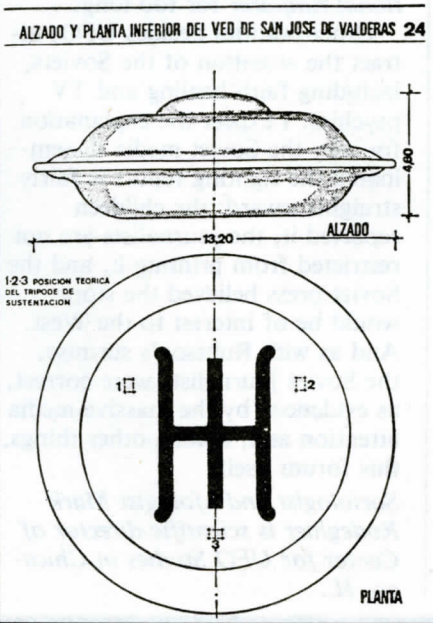
"The name UMMO may be hiding an inside joke. In 1970, a company called UMO Plant Hire, Ltd. was incorporated in Britain. It turned out to be a *Soviet spy front*. [Italics added] In Sept., 1971, 105 Soviet officials were expelled from Britain for espionage, and UMO was closed down."[1]

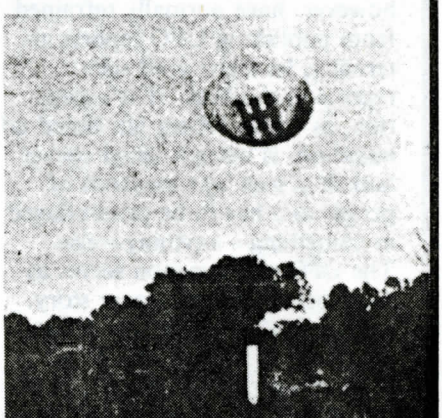
The mark is also supposed to be a letter in the Russian alphabet—of which there is no real equivalent in English.—*V.C.*

1. Vallee, Jacques, *Messengers of Deception,* Berkeley: And/Or Press, 1979. P. 53.



KID'S VIEW—This witness' drawing was used in Western news coverage of the sighting.





UMMO UFO—Records say the above photograph was taken in Spain on June 1, 1967. To left, chart of UMMO craft.

Sociologist's Viewpoint

Soviets Mine UFO Motherlode

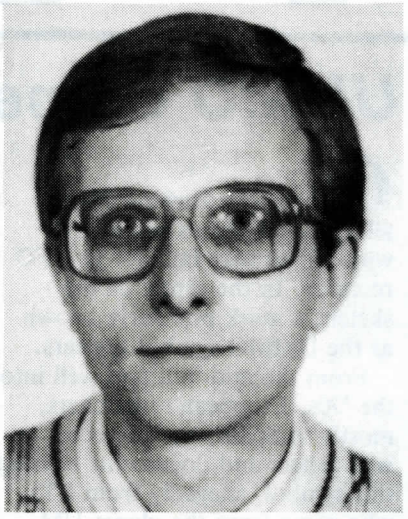
By Mark Rodeghier

Although the outcome is unknown, the existence of Tass' apparently uncensored UFO report tells us about Soviet society today.

Vladimir Rubtsov, a Soviet sociologist who has followed the UFO problem for many years, recently told me how *glasnost* is penetrating all levels of Soviet life, including fringe subjects. Well before the Voronezh incident, he actually predicted how we in the West would be hearing more about such topics as bigfoot sightings and UFO reports in the USSR. Rubtsov's prediction was confirmed by the Tass report, much sooner than is common in the social sciences.

Soviet citizens have been seeing and reporting UFOs for many years. Felix Zigel has written extensively on UFO sightings in the USSR, and his work documents hundreds of sightings. The Soviet government has sponsored at least two studies on the UFO phenomenon—one of which is printed in translation by CUFOs—and several local civilian UFO investigative groups are active in the USSR. An international meeting of ufologists in Moscow is planned for 1990s.

That UFO incidents take place in Russia should come as no surprise. Official Soviet media, however, have normally refrained from publishing UFO reports internally, let alone send such reports to the West. The exception, as James Oberg has noted *ad nauseum*, is when a secret rocket launch is seen by thousands of people and has to be camouflaged as something—anything—else. The UFO phenomenon serves as the most convenient cover story. Such a "UFO" sighting is placed prominently in the press. UFO reports have been censored, but in this their fate is not unique. Many things unsavory to the ruling Politburo haven't been reported in the Soviet press, such as natural and manmade disasters, food riots and acts of political dissent.



Mark Rodeghier

The Soviet UFO report thus tells us much more about current Soviet policies and the status of *glasnost* than it does about ongoing UFO activity in the USSR. And it is not likely that the Soviets are using the report as a means to distract their citizens from the many problems presently plaguing the country. Anyone who believes that UFO reports can actually take people's minds off their problems has been standing in the grocery line reading the ***National Enquirer*** for too long.

Other oddities besides UFOs attract the attention of the Soviets, including faith healing and TV psychics. I expect the explanation for why the Soviet media disseminated the sighting report is fairly straightforward: the children reported it, the journalists are not restricted from printing it, and the Soviet press believed the story would be of interest to the West. And as with Rubtsov's surmise, the Soviet journalists were correct, as evidenced by the massive media attention and, among other things, this forum itself.

Sociologist and ufologist Mark Rodeghier is scientific director of Center for UFO Studies in Chicago, IL.

run in the Soviet publication *Trud*.

More recently, a rash of other Russian UFO sightings made it to the papers. Witnesses came from areas in Siberia, the Perm and the Vologoda regions of the huge country.

Military Motives?

Voronezh itself, a city of one million people, lies within the Russian Military District. Nearby is said to be an airfield which could act as a wartime-dispersion base for long-range nuclear bombers, some military theorists say. Not too far away are some underground bases controlled by the KGB and Soviet military and political leadership, so the alleged aliens may have selected a region of sufficient sensitivity to snoop around and leave their dubious but obvious clues—landing dents in the ground which some have suggested are only holes for earthly water pipes.

Should the incident at Voronezh be discounted totally? Not if what we read in *Moscow News* is true: radiation readings taken of the landing "dents" showed a specific increase in gamma radiation compared to neighboring sites only two to three meters away. Also, several adult witnesses are on the record as having viewed luminous balls flying over the region during the same week. To top it off, says the *News*, an expert commission has been set up to continue investigations into the incident. It's reportedly headed by the official criminal expert of the city's Administration of Internal Affairs, and includes local scientific specialists.

Western response should be so prompt and thorough. Hopefully we'll at least read some follow-up reports in the Western mainstream press.

*Readers who have more information or contacts that might expedite communication with the USSR are invited to write or call **UFO**. In the next issue, we will feature additional information and opinion, as well as historical background on other UFO events in the Soviet Union.*

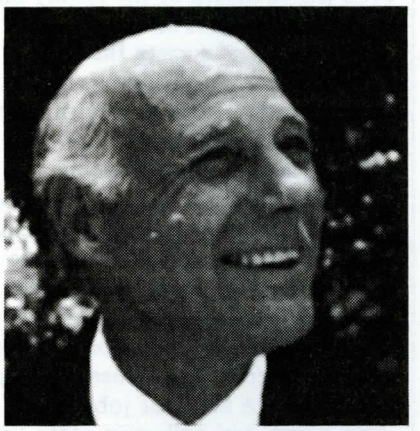
*The UFO Database is compiling an information packet on the Russian sighting. Send SASE for details, c/o **UFO Magazine**.*

CONTACTEE:

FIRSTHAND

Having suffered the comparative deprivation of society under Russian Communism, the schoolchildren of Voronezh and their parents would be shocked to hear the doctrine of "World Communism" as espoused by Allen Michael. His missionary philosophy, inspired by what he believes is extraterrestrial intelligence (ETI), envisions anything but a poor, repressive lifestyle with an aggressively parental government. The most visible of progressive Communists on earth, Gen. Secretary Gorbachev, is no doubt reminded daily of just how unforgiving entrenched policies can be. In their confusion, the people, too, rise up to demand what has been promised them.

In an ideal state, functional perestroika *might resemble Michael's cant—a type of propaganda, perhaps?—except in the fervid religious overtones this contactee has applied to the capitalist-communist dichotomy. The following is excerpted from Michael's* ***ETI Space Beings Intercept Earthlings****, published in 1977 by Starmast Publications. It's only a small segment of Michael's rhetorical prophecy, first inspired in 1947, when he says he was taken out of body into a waiting spaceship.*



Allen Michael

"The basis of our New World Government (NWG) that is rising out of the revolutionary Cosmopolitan World People . . . is of a World Wide Communal Democracy in which every person has absolute freedom, security and abundance. All national governments are dissolved by means of their obsolescence, and the NWG that comes will have power over life and death.

"The NWG will be exactly what it says in the New Covenant-World Bill of Rights . . . 'Let the government be of the people, where the people are self-governed; by the people, where the people enjoy perfect freedom; for the people, where people give themselves abundant living. Let the Government seat be only the storehouse and inventory of the people's products.'

"Government should have managed the necessities of life all along to produce liberty, justice and equality for everyone according to ability and need, but national governments do not do this . . . they manage a privately-owned Federal Reserve System, and the people are in business against each other.

"Capitalist money is all interest-bearing and taxed, except for the *Uni-Godhead's* Constitutional Church, which is financed by ETI.

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The amazing true story of how ETI space beings, who have intervened at key times to direct the course of history, now return to deliver this planet into its New Age, or Heaven on Earth

ETI is of the righteous ownership of all things (righteousness is right-useness).

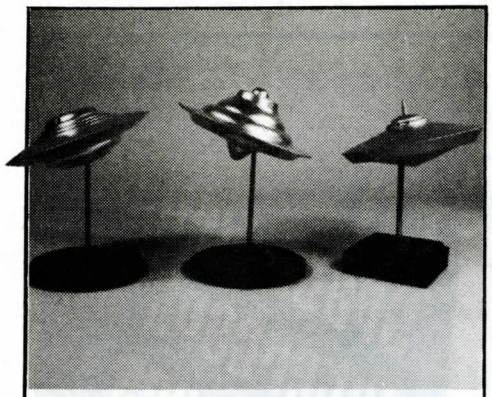
"The existence of many conflicting social, religious and political groups, claiming to represent the world people's interests and those of the working class, can be seen as representing a particular stage of the World Revolutionary Movement—WRM. As Prophet Marx observed, 'The development of the system of socialist sects and that of the real workers' movement always stand in inverse ratio to each other.' Notice the words Marx uses, 'inverse ratio.' Where do the words *socialism* and *communism* apply?

"Socialism derives from a society that is sociable, and communism derives from the idea of holding all things common. The amount of conflict between different national and social groups is in inverse ratio to their knowledge and vision of the task at hand. The Universe knows what the things are that need to be done here and can tell anyone about them who wants to know and has the heart and mind to carry out orders that are for everyone's freedom, security and abundance. Any limitations expressed are the limitations of the person expressing them. And it only derives from the desire to maintain the status quo where people have special privileges.

"Capitalism rose out of effects

and *is* effects. And it has nothing to do with the way of life U.S. citizens were supposed to live or what the Americans equate as their way of life. All the good things that people have who are under capitalistic effects are of communism, community or cooperation. Their libraries, schools, welfare, social security and even the structure of the family unit and the military is communistic. Those facets of society that don't function in cooperation are controlled by the usury money of private banking. A lot of people are employed in the exorcisms of capitalistic effects, such as the people in banking, insurance, government paper work, the Internal Revenue Service, and all people associated with business as usual. When the ETI Communist revolution came in Russia, where it was chosen to happen, all these kinds of jobs ended. And a workers' collective came forth that eliminated private property, interest-bearing money and taxation. The Soviet people became the government of, by and for the people.

"Only the World Communist Movement is in a position to receive the whole world or to bring about the kind of detente that will end the tribulation period and bring in the New Age now. In all the rest of the world, people under the cyborg beast have bills to pay. The communists have no bills to pay. They are economically into the law of supply and demand. Their prices can't go up so that they would boom and bust, boom and bust: nor can the workers of socialism ever be out of work. They've got plenty of work to do to rebuild the whole world, which they can do because they don't need money to do it with and they have plenty of natural resources, industries and willing hands—hands and voices rising all over the world. 'Glory to Christ Communism!' "



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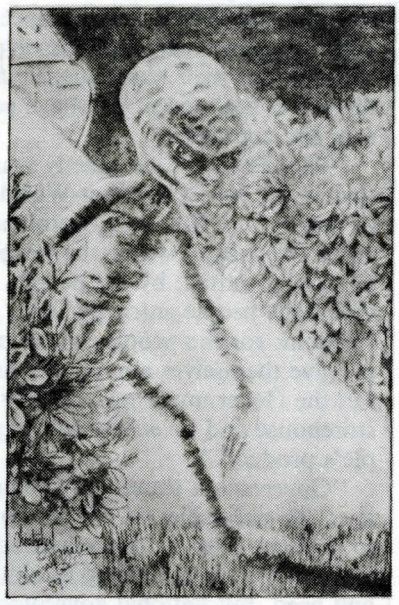

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'Communion:' The Movie

The long-awaited movie version of ***Communion*** *finally hit the theaters this fall. Though an onslaught of generally flaccid reviews and Strieber's own venom toward the press have marred things, the movie rates attention and respect—if not accolades— for being the first major-length feature film to focus on the abduction phenomenon. Below, Dennis Stacy adds his considered opinion to the media pool.*

Film director Philippe Mora first met author Whitley Strieber in the late '60s, at London Film School. Twenty years later, their first collaboration, the movie version of Strieber's ***Communion***, a [Universal] release distributed by New Line Cinema, is on movie screens nationwide.

Rumors have abounded almost as much as anticipation. In the Hollywood vernacular, the movie was said to be "in trouble" and in dire need of a "quick fix." The special effects were supposed to be less than scintillating. The movie's sole saving grace, it was bruited, was Christopher Walken's audience-gripping portrayal of the lead character. Word even had it that "Communion" was already in limited distribution in Germany and Europe.

Well, the movie finally had its "official" world premiere on Oct. 21 at the Stage II theater in Aspen, Colorado, and some of the rumors, at least, can finally be laid to rest.

The occasion was the Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind Forum held at the Givens Institute and hosted by Larry Koss. The conference was attended by perhaps 100 participants, including seven abductees. Curiously, the premiere was threatened with an eleventh-hour cancellation (literally in this case, as 11 p.m. was the time the movie was scheduled to roll) by Strieber himself, for reasons only he can best defend.

"Communion" stars Walken as Strieber, Lindsay Crouse as Strieber's wife Anne, and Joel Carlson as young Andrew. Frances Sternhagen has a small support role as the psychiatrist to whom Strieber first turns as his strange experiences begin to unfold. Mora ("The Howling, II"), of course, directs. The screenplay was penned by Strieber, who also serves as associate producer. (Mora, incidentally, is also slated to direct the film of Strieber's latest novel, ***Majestic***.)

It is undeniably true that Walken carries the day and the play, in that it is hard to imagine how any other actor on the contemporary scene could have done the role justice. Walken, as anyone familiar with his career knows, always plays Walken. But in this case, his quirky, jerky mannerisms mesh perfectly with those of a successful New York author (Strieber) on the verge, initially, of a nervous breakdown brought on by writer's block, and later as a justifiably confused human being immersed in a mind-boggling encounter with apparent alien beings. Needless to say, unfolding events make for a few tense moments in the married relations department. As Anne Strieber, Crouse expresses confusion and concern for the marriage and her husband's mental health and eventually stands by her man and son, even though she understandably has less to do onscreen than Walken.

The latter's performance, if fact, is worthy of an Academy Award Best Actor *nomination*, though that is

ON BOARD—*Whitley Strieber (Christopher Walken) recalls vivid, surreal experiences on board an alien craft.*

***DISTURBED**—Strieber can no longer be sure he knows fantasy from reality in the course of his abduction ordeal.*

hardly likely to happen for reasons beyond his control. The Academy historically overlooks "horror" films and similarly snubs independently produced features such as "Communion." In addition, Walken is an acquired taste. A few letdowns here and there in the film, coupled with the "offbeat" subject matter itself, make Walken's chances for peer recognition seem small at best. (Remember what happened to Jeff Goldblum in regard to his stellar performance in the remake of "The Fly.")

Joel Carlson, as Strieber's young son Andrew, also shines, and nearly steals away with several scenes neatly tucked under his presumably inexperienced belt.

Mora performs as admirably behind the camera. It's speculative, but there is the feeling that Mora contributed considerably to the overall pace of Strieber's script and the tension-breaking bits of humor scattered throughout. He also does an admirable job with the available special effects budget, considering that "Communion" can hardly be faulted for not being movie-making on the grandest scale of Hollywood budgets. True, certain effects, including the aliens themselves, could have carried more cimematic conviction, but they could have been a lot *less* convincing as well. A few effects even stand out. A Polaroid snapshot scene, for example, freezes the screen far beyond the realtime flash, giving an eerie sense of suspended illumination. Mora also photographs Walken on several occasions using two cameras with an on-screen feed—that, or a flat-field, non-distorting wide-angle lens—to zoom in on the actor while the background looms closer, lending a simultaneous sense of physical isolation and of Strieber/Walken being psychically separated from his surroundings.

The plot itself, as some readers of the book will agree, has enough holes to drop a large UFO through, along with enough loose ends to bind up most of the world's abductees. Not only are the gaps not sealed by "Communion;" the movie manages to open up a few yawning chasms of its own. The psychiatrist (Sternhagen), for instance, to whom Strieber is referred early on, just happens to know of a group of people with similar experiences who meet regularly in the city of New York. Even more coincidentally, she proves to be the head of this selfsame support group. Screenwriters, of course, are allowed the same license of compression—to a degree—as poets, as long as such contortions don't obviously slow or otherwise affect story flow; and for the most part, here, they don't. I'll leave it to others to comment on how accurate a reflection of reality these group meeting scenes are, but the impression of a few in Aspen who were present at the time was fairly unfavorable. The cinematic Strieber quickly distances himself from the abduction "scene" in the movie, when, in fact—I was told—he actually hosted several meetings in his own household, and was apparently genuinely relieved and moved to have encountered others with similar shared experiences. In "Communion," Walken-as-Strieber is abruptly dismissive of the meetings as a whole. Cinematic license can be invoked here, too, but obviously there will be those who sharply disagree with the way the situation was handled onscreen.

Those looking for a linear, literal re-enactment of the original book will be disappointed as well. The little man in the shield in Strieber's bedroom, who presented such a terrifying visage in the book, is here treated as a grotesque, cartoon caricature for no discernable reason. Though those already offended, as well as critics to come, probably won't agree, what does come through in the movie more than the book is the immense personal *courage* it took for Strieber to come forward in person with his story. The sheer embarrassing emotionality and

intimacy of the abduction scene, with its rough handling and rectal probe, are much more visceral in the visual language of the cinema than on the printed page.

Some will be too personally involved or embittered to admit it, but "Communion" has its more than moving moments. Going to bed early in chill Aspen air and a strange motel room, I found myself momentarily eyeing an open closet door with apprehension, and wondered if anything could hide in the folds of the drapes or possibly scrunch itself under the double bed.

It also has a moment or two Mora should have reined in. The intended humor of one of the climactic scenes, in which Strieber and abductors confront one another, is too broad by a gesture, rendered simply laughable when one of the earlier captors culminates an exchange of body language between the two with a "gimme-five" slap of alien to human palms. Was this in the book originally, or did I skip a page somewhere? Gimme five, and a well-deserved break, too.

As the experienced hand in this extended family enterprise, Mora should have also drawn in the reins in the final exposition shots. I like the way they were staged (in an art museum), but exposition is notoriously awkward as a technique, whether literary or cinematic, and virtually impossible to pull off gracefully, even when gracefully managed as it is here.

What "Communion" can hardly be faulted for is its reflection of Strieber's own idiosyncratic (and seemingly inadequate) interpretation of the abduction experience and the alien entities presumably behind it. On the one hand, given the way the movie concludes, it results in the absurd marquee: "Extraterrestrial Aliens Invade Earth! (And cure a bad case of writer's block)."

On the other hand, it's undeniably Strieber's movie, and arguably is now ours as well. In the immediate months ahead, I expect to hear and read much more, rather than a lot less, about "Communion," the movie.

Dennis Stacy is a freelance writer and editor of the monthly MUFON UFO Journal.

FACING IT—Dr. Janet Duffy (Frances Sternhagen) hypnotizes Ann Strieber (Lindsay Crouse) into recalling her own memories of alien abduction.

CONFESSION—Whitley Strieber tentatively reveals his horrific memories to wife Ann, not sure yet whether to believe them or not himself.

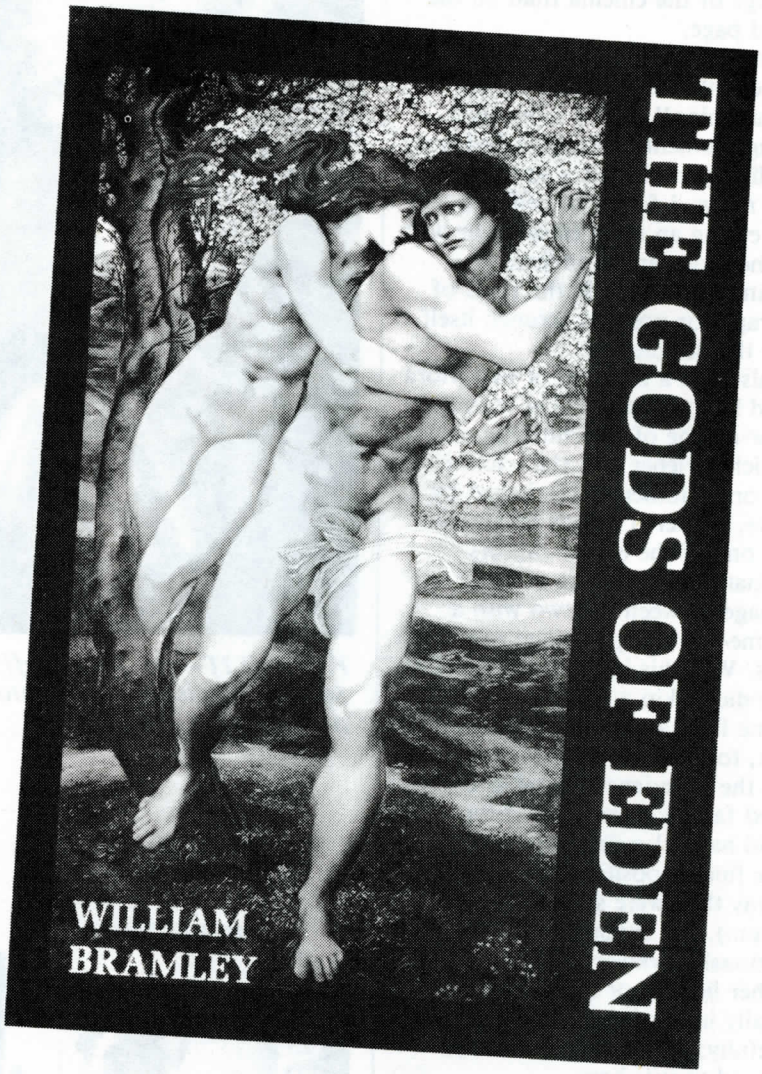
BOOK REVIEWS

The Gods of Eden

By William Bramley. CA: Dahlin Family Press, 1989. 535 pp. $23.95

Let me summarize my conclusions thus far. UFOs are real. They are an application of psychotronic technology: that is, they are physical devices used to affect human consciousness. They may not be from outer space; they may, in fact, be terrestrial-based manipulating devices. Their purpose may be to achieve social changes on this planet. Their methods are those of deception: systematic manipulation of witnesses and contactees; covert use of various sects and cults; control of the channels through which the alleged "space messages" can make an impact on the public.

—Jacques Vallee, "Messengers of Deception."



Every so often, a truly momentous book is published, a book that simplifies a complex or totally baffling subject by placing it in an understandable context, answering questions that have been asked for many years. William Bramley has accomplished this with a rare degree of scholarship in his book, ***The Gods of Eden.***

Ever since Zecharia Sitchin wrote ***The 12th Planet***, which presented a brilliant argument that the human race was biogenetically engineered by extraterrestrial astronauts about 250,000 years ago, this question concerning man's origins has been endlessly discussed and argued by ufologists. As Jacques Vallee points out in ***Messengers of Deception***, UFOs are real—but what if they are really a terrestrial manipulation? Bramley takes this several steps further. What if these UFO events are now terrestrial, but originally these intelligences came from somewhere else?

In chapter one, Bramley states that when he originally began to research this book, his purpose was to document the role of "third party factors" in human history and conflict. Expecting to find a profit motive behind such third-party intervention, he was absolutely astounded when the UFO kept coming up time and again. Quitting twice in disgust, he finally realized that rational minds tend to seek rational causes to explain human problems. Digging deeper, Bramley was forced to come to terms with the idea that some realities are not understood or acknowledged, and what did emerge was a bizarre reality—the UFO.

Taking the reader from ancient Sumerian records detailing human-like extraterrestrial creatures that were human society's first monarchs, to 20th-century Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia, Bramley weaves an incredibly researched and documented tale of how humanity was first created, then enslaved, and became a horrifically manipulated group of human property.

Bramley argues that humankind has been denied its spiritual inheritance by the entities he refers to as the "Custodial Society." These Custodians were able to continually subjugate humanity by the institution of human "God-Kings," and a succession of secret groupings that he calls the "Brotherhood" societies. The first and most important was the "Brotherhood of the Snake." Bramley writes, "As we shall now begin to carefully document, the Brotherhood of the Snake has been the world's most effective tool for preserving mankind's status as a spiritually ignorant creature of toil throughout all of history. During all of that time, and continuing today, the Brotherhood and its network of organizations have remained intimately tied to the UFO

phenomenon."

An excellent example of third party manipulation is shown when the "Lord God," through Joshua, ordered the Biblical Hebrews into Canaan, where they committed genocide in order to fulfill God's command. "The genocide was justified by saying that the victims were all wicked . . . the real crime, according to the Bible, was that the natives of the region had become disobedient. The more obedient Hebrews were therefore elected by Jehovah to wipe out the natives and replace them." Also, it must be noted: "Genocide is often a tool for promoting rapid political or social change by replacing one group of people with another. For this reason, genocide has emerged as a significant historical phenomenon in connection with many Brotherhood efforts at bringing about rapid political and social change." Bramley also refers to the Biblical passages where Jehovah or God hardens the hearts of Israel's enemies: "In this case, we should take the Bible seriously because it has described a very real political phenomenon: two or more parties being manipulated into conflict with one another by an outside third party."

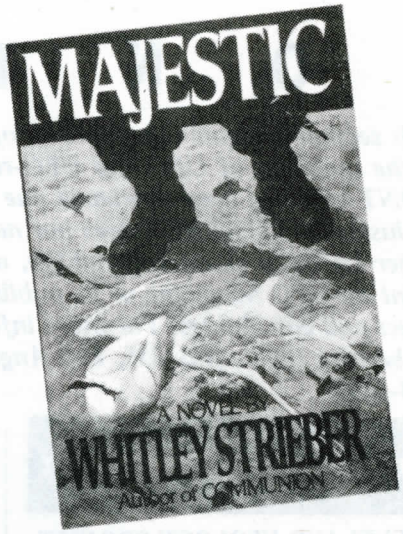
Bramley describes this aberration time and time again, such as the incident when the Lord God hardened the heart of Pharoah to keep the Hebrews from leaving Egypt prior to the Exodus. The author carries the concept forward to today, showing, for example, the manipulations of international banking cartels, which finance all sides during conflicts and times of war. These cartels are hundreds of years old, with roots going back much farther.

As terrible as much of the above is, by far the most horrible example of the "Custodial Society's" manipulation is the apparent practice of periodic "germ warfare" directed against human habitations. Chapter 18 describes this unbelieveable series of occurrences much clearer than I can in this short space.

I cannot state too strongly that this is a "MUST READ" for every student of social and human history, and what very well may turn out to be the "secret" behind the flying discs. ***—Don Ecker***

Strieber At Home In 'Majestic' Territory

By Sean Casteel

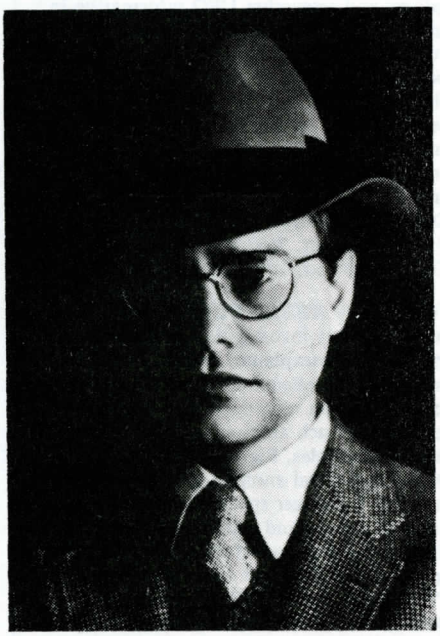


Whitley Strieber, author of the phenomenally successful first-person accounts of his own abduction experiences, ***Communion*** and its sequel ***Transformation***, has reverted to more familiar territory with his most recent work ***Majestic***. (See review in ***UFO***, Vol. 4, No. 4) Strieber is quick to point out that although the book is based on events alleged to have happened in 1947 at Roswell, New Mexico, it is not history disguised as a novel, but is in fact a work of fiction.

It is Strieber working in the medium he is best at—the horror/suspense genre that won him his early fame. He spent considerable time in Roswell researching ***Majestic***, and has come to some fact-based conclusions about the incident. What follows is the author talking about his latest novel and sounding genuinely angry about the willful cover-up of something that affects us all.

"Majestic is about the crash of a UFO in Roswell, New Mexico, an event which I have established must have happened, despite what the debunkers say. I don't go into this too directly in the novel, but I believe I could establish that the effort made to deny that this happened is a very conscious effort of disinformation. I think there is very strong circumstantial evidence that a cover-up was very intentionally put in place and has been carried forward to this time.

"Perhaps the visitors asked for the crash to be kept secret—secrecy certainly is their policy. If they didn't request this, then the event is secret because the government doesn't understand what happened and doesn't want to admit it. Someone from some other world or dimension appeared here, seemed to more or less be in control of what happened, aside from the fact that one of their



Whitley Strieber

UFOs crashed, then left as enigmatically as they had arrived. I think that the government hides what happened because it made perhaps the most historically devastating mistake that mankind could make: it botched contact with—and understanding of—the greatest and most important enigma mankind has ever known.

"And I think that's exactly what did happen. They screwed up. They failed in what would have been the most important single event in history."

Sean Casteel is a freelance writer from Norman, Oklahoma.

C O N T A C T

This section presents select listings of groups and individuals involved in the spectrum of UFO and UFO-related phenomena. This issue's CONTACT has been shortened due to space limitations. Inclusion in CONTACT does not necessarily indicate a belief in either UFOs or extraterrestrial life, nor does it constitute an endorsement by UFO Magazine or its publishers. UFO reserves the right to select and edit listings. For more information, write UFO, 1800 So. Robertson Blvd., Box 355, Los Angeles, CA 90035, or call (213) 273-9409.

Investigation & Research

CLEVELAND UFOLOGY PROJECT gathers and researches UFO information in an effort to educate the public, and also conducts case investigations. C.U.P. has been in existence for 34 years, making it one of the oldest UFO institutions around. Meetings are held regularly on the third Saturday of each month, and ufologists traveling to Ohio are urged to get in touch with this long-lived organization.
CONTACT: Mary Ann Hawk, Cleveland Ufology Project, 7653 Normandie Blvd., C-33, Cleveland, OH 44130 (216) 243-0782

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CONTACT: J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies, 2457 West Peterson Ave., Chicago, IL 60659. International UFO Reporter: 612 No. Oscar Ave., Canby, MI 56220

INSTITUTE FOR UFO CONTACTEE STUDIES, along with Paranormal Research Organization and UFO Studies, sponsors the well-attended Rocky Mountain Conference on UFO Investigation. (This year's is scheduled for June 29, 30 and July 1.) This annual congregation of contactees and investigators takes place at the University of Wyoming . The purpose of IFUFOCS is to research contactee phenomena and help bring to light the nature of their experiences. Conference proceedings are available in booklet form.
CONTACT: June Parnell, Ph.D., president, 2219 Rainbow Ave., Laramie, WY 82070. (307) 742-3399

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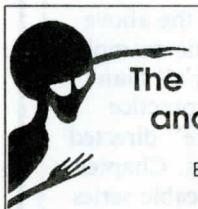

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CONTACT: Stan Gordon, Director of Operations, PASU, 6 Oakhill Ave., Greensburg, PA 15601. UFO Hotline: (412) 838-7768 (24 hours)

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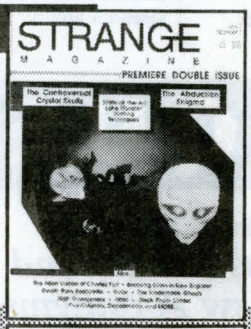

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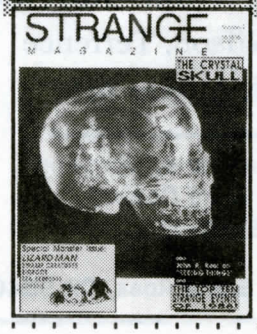

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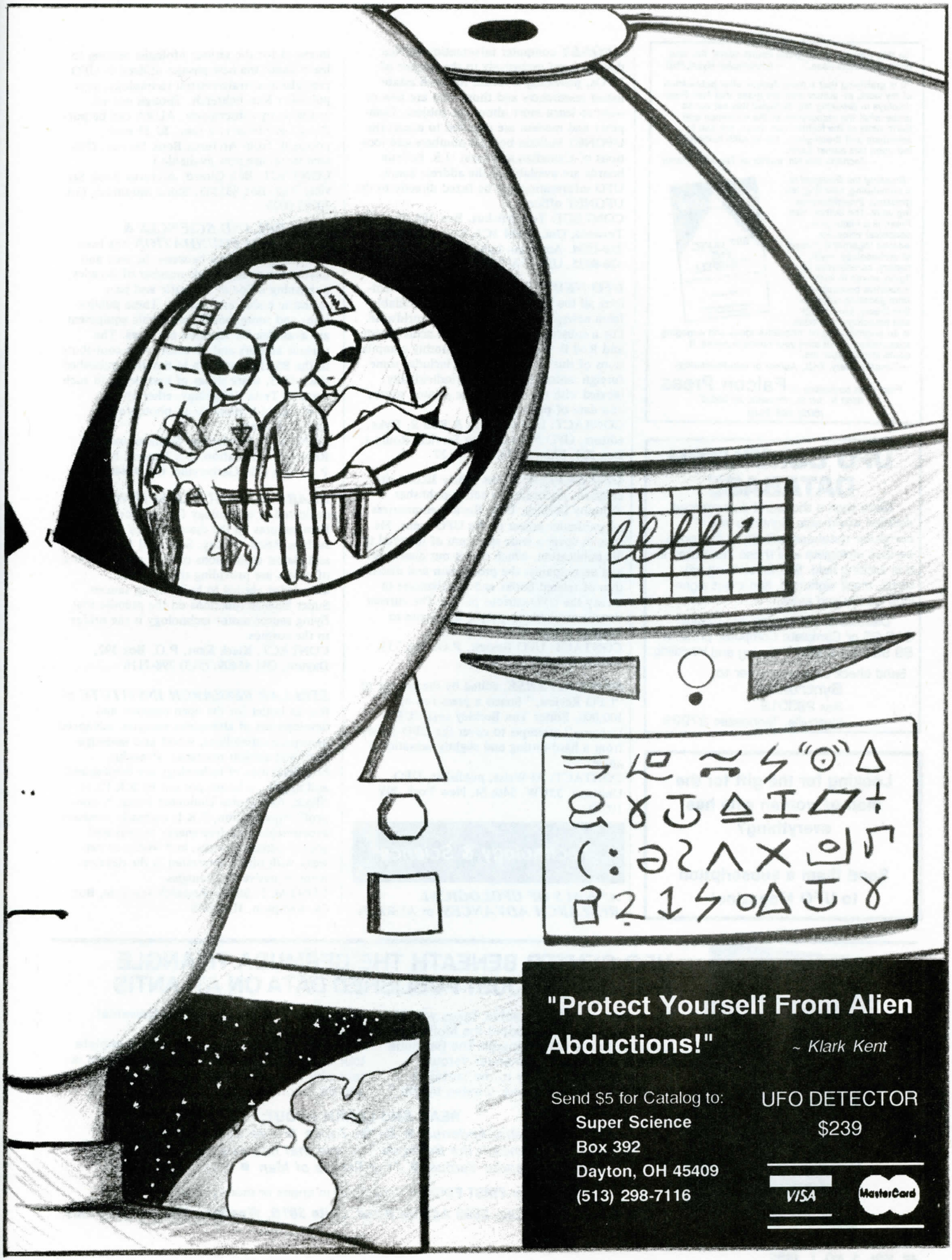

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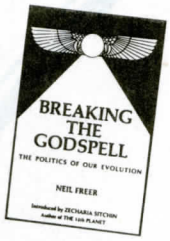

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CONTACT: Tom Mickus, Box 388, Stn. W, Toronto, Ont. M6M 5C1, Canada. (416) 239-1094. American hub BBS: (602) 526-8025. UFO FAX Hotline: (414) 351-2075.

UFO NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE collects all the UFO-oriented articles available from newspapers and magazines worldwide. For a subscription fee, editors Lucius Farish and Rod B. Dyke will send monthly compilations of this coverage, which includes some foreign material. Stories are individually labeled with the name of the printed source and date of publication.
CONTACT: Lucius Farish & Rod B. Dyke, editors, UFO Newsclipping Service, Route 1, Box 220, Plumerville, AK 72127

UFO REVIEW claims nearly 30,000 circulation. According to editor-publisher Timothy Beckley, UFO Review emphasizes no particular aspect of the UFO scene. He tries to cover a wide spectrum of material in his publication, which comes out quarterly and accompanies the production and distribution of related books and merchandise to satisfy the UFO-curious public. The current issue is available to people who write to Beckley in care of the magazine.
CONTACT: UFO Review, P.O. Box 753, New Brunswick, NJ 08903

UFO UNIVERSE, edited by the creator of "UFO Review," boasts a press run of 100,000. Editor Tim Beckley says "UFO Universe" attempts to cover the UFO subject from a hard-hitting and slightly sensational angle.
CONTACT: Al Weiss, publisher, UFO Universe, 351 W. 54th St. New York, NY 10019.

Technology & Science

ANNALS OF UFOLOGICAL RESEARCH ADVANCES, or AURA, is intended for the serious ufologist seeking to learn about the new physics utilized in UFO propulsion/extraterrestrial technology, says publisher Ken Behrendt. Though not yet available by subscription, AURA can be purchased one issue at a time, $5.85 each postpaid, from Arcturus Book Service. (Fifteen issues are now available.)
CONTACT: Bob Girard, Arcturus Book Service, P.O. Box 831383, Stone Mountain, GA 30083-0023

BORDERLAND SCIENCES & RESEARCH FOUNDATION has been navigating the realm between the seen and unseen for a respectable number of decades, publishing a line of scientific and parascientific books and reports. These publications and some esoteric electronic equipment are available for research purposes. The various authors and inventors who contribute to the BSRF Journal, a bi-monthly published since 1945, share stores of knowledge in such areas as Tesla technology, ether physics, dowsing, radionics, occult photography and—UFO tech.
CONTACT: Borderland Sciences and Research Foundation, c/o Thomas Brown, P.O. Box 429, Garberville, CA 95440-0429

KLARK KENT SUPER SCIENCE is dedicated to technology for the New Age. Kent lectures on the discoveries of inventors such as Reich, Moray, Searl and Leedskalnin, and claims replications of their work and that of others are providing the practical knowledge needed to build flying saucers. Super Science functions on the premise that flying saucer motor technology is the bridge to the cosmos.
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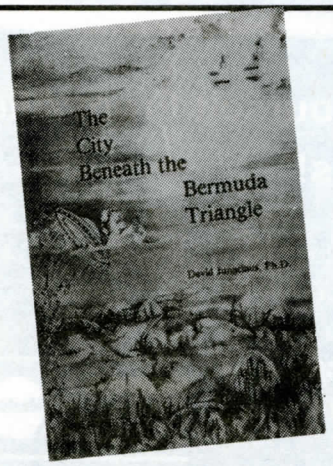

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ANCIENT ASTRONAUT SOCIETY is dedicated to the search for evidence to determine whether Earth was visited by extraterrestrial beings in ancient times, and to determine whether a highly-developed technological civilization existed on Earth prior to recorded history. Providing a forum for the exchange of ideas, the society disseminates factual material throughout the world.
CONTACT: Gene M. Phillips, Ancient Astronaut Society, 1921 St. Johns Ave., Highland Park, IL 60035-3105. (312) 295-8899

BLUEPEACE will eventually present factual UFO testimony before Congress, its principle goal. An offshoot of Computer UFO Network, this civilian interest organization is drumming up support for Congressional hearings not only on UFOs, but other important issues as well. "Any area that affects Americans and their Constitutional rights," says Bluepeace spokesman Dale Goudie. The project will also help fund other worthwhile projects and organizations. Inquiries are welcome.
CONTACT: Bluepeace, P.O. Box 832, Mercer Island, WA 98040

CITIZENS AGAINST UFO SECRECY openly challenges the federal government to make public its vast stores of UFO information. By accessing governmental UFO data through the Freedom of Information Act and employing other appropriate tactics, CAUS is able to document events relating to official secrecy. CAUS networks with ufologists both in and out of the U.S. and publishes "Just Cause" newsletter with "inside information."
CONTACT: Larry Fawcett or Barry Greenwood, CAUS, P.O. Box 218, Coventry, CT 06238

FUND FOR UFO RESEARCH, INC., a non-profit, scientific organization, directs public contributions into UFO research and education projects. Since its inception in 1979, the Fund has raised more than $67,000, nearly half of which has been spent on grants, case investigations, government investigations, awards and symposia. No memberships; strictly a funding organization—though some books and informational case material can be ordered.
CONTACT: Fred Whiting, Secretary-Treasurer, Fund for UFO Research, Inc., P.O. Box 277, Mt. Rainier, MD 20712

OMEGA COMMUNICATIONS of Connecticut is run by author-researcher John White. Omega regularly presents a symposium entitled The UFO Experience, which hosts top names in the field addressing the multifaceted perspectives of UFO research and direct experience. Information on 1990's Omega Conference will be published in future issues of ***UFO***.
CONTACT: Omega Communications, P.O. Box 2051, Cheshire, CT 06410

PROJECT ALEPH is interested in researching E.T. science and technology, including the paranormal effects of UFO experience, abduction scenarios and the psionic implications of MIB/helicopter incidents.
CONTACT: Brian Koski, PROJECT ALEPH, P.O. Box 160831, Sacramento, CA 95816.

Foreign Groups

BRITISH UFO RESEARCH ORGANIZATION, or BUFORA, is probably the best known UFO research group in the United Kingdom. Established in 1964, BUFORA works at encouraging, promoting and conducting unbiased scientific research of UFOs, collecting and disseminating data in lectures and its publications called Transient Aerial Phenomena and the BUFORA Bulletin. The newsletter offers a regular round-up of UFO events being investigated in England.
CONTACT: Arnold West, membership secretary, 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, Sussex, RH15 9ST, England

CANADIAN U.F.O. RESEARCH NETWORK is Canada's largest and oldest UFO investigative organization, according to co-director Lawrence Fenwick. The group

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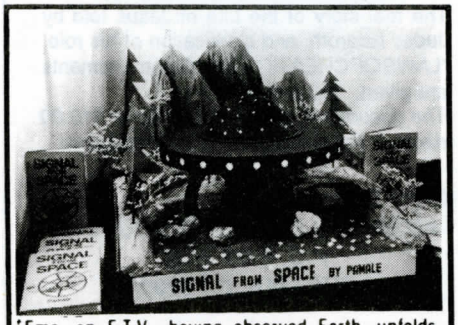
For the past several months, Bill Cooper has linked my name with his in regards to his own alleged viewing of the elusive Grudge/Blue Book Report No. 13 (claims which I seriously doubt). Several months ago, in the UFINET Newsletter, I publicly severed any and all ties to Mr. Cooper. I wish to make the same disassociation here.

I strongly object to Cooper's preying upon those who are not completely informed, by taking their hard-earned money and spreading alarmist, sky-is-falling nonsense that lacks one shred of evidence.

—WILLIAM ENGLISH
Alamogordo, New Mexico



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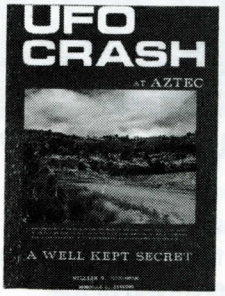

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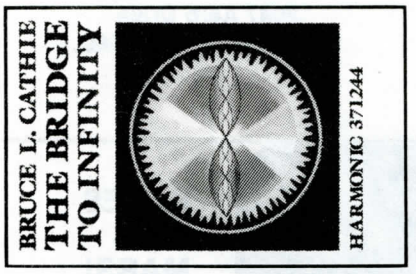

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specializes in probing close encounters and abduction reports, along with maintaining extensive files and publishing a bi-monthly journal. A list of recommended books and magazines is also available. CUFORN has membership qualifications that include a minimum of three years of intensive UFO research, a process consisting of reading at least five books on ufology or one of the following: a university or college degree, or training in a scientific discipline, law enforcement, public relations, photography, art, media or private investigation.
CONTACT: Lawrence J. Fenwick, P.O. Box 15, Station "A", Willowdale, Ontario, Canada M2N 5S7

CONTACT INTERNATIONAL collects UFO reports from all parts of the globe. Based in Britain, the data agency dispatches its own team of investigators to check UK sightings. CI maintains a master catalogue containing 76,000 sightings recorded from B.C. to the present, and has begun computerizing reports for easier access. A quarterly magazine called "Awareness" and an annual called "UFO Register" are available by subscription at $4.95 pounds per year (check dollar exchange rate at time of order.)
CONTACT: D.N. Mansell, Contact International, 48 Crown Rd., Wheatley, Oxford, OX91UL, England.

GALACTEUS-TRANSTAR focuses on experiencing and understanding interdimensional communications. The 20-year-old communal group, through a synthesis of many traditions and an ongoing transmutation program, has built up an operational knowledge it shares with interested groups and individuals. GALACTEUS also hosts a variety of activities and vacation-workshops in Tahiti.
CONTACT: GALACTEUS-TRANSTAR, 2210 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 476, Santa Monica, CA 90403; or B.P. 4557, Papeete, Tahiti, French Polynesia

INDEPENDENT UFO NETWORK was formed in 1987 out of liaison between members of the West Yorkshire research group (WYUFORG), the Yorkshire UFO Network and several independent investigators in northern England. It seeks to disseminate its wide-ranging research and investigation via UFO Brigantia, the network's bi-monthly journal. The group holds no particular viewpoint on the nature of the UFO enigma.
CONTACT: Martin Dagless, 19 Bellmount Gardens, Bramley, Leeds, West Yorkshire, England LS13 2ND,

QUEST INTERNATIONAL, The Journal of UFO Investigation, is located in Yorkshire, England. It is considered Europe's largest investigative organization targeting UFOs, compiling and studying UFO reports from all over the world. Quest International also offers public lectures, discussion meetings and their own UFO publication, QUEST. In the U.S., a year's subscription to this bi-monthly is $20.00 (surface) or $30 (air mail), and includes six free copies of another journal, "Twenty Twenty Vision."
CONTACT: Quest International, 15 Pickard

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Networking

AMALGAMATED FLYING SAUCER CLUBS OF AMERICA, INC., billed as the world's largest contactee-oriented flying saucer research organization, is headed up by California contactee Gabriel Green. Like many other contactees and telepathic channels of ET messages, Green views modern-day extraterrestrial visitation as the most important event in our history. AFSCA promotes the beneficent efforts of the space people on our behalf, distributing an array of books, photos, information sheets and taped lectures. Green also facilitates past-life regressions and is known for advocating an egalitarian New Age ideology called Universalism.
CONTACT: Amalgamated Flying Saucer Clubs of America, P.O. Box 39, Yucca Valley, CA 92286. (619) 365-1141

FOX VALLEY UFO DISCUSSION AND SUPPORT GROUP works with people all over world to help them better understand the contactee or abduction experience. Fox Valley offers local support through a call-in TV program. Founder Judie Woolcott claims to be working with an extraterrestrial member of the planetary confederation that will be offering a helping hand during the predicted planetary catastrophe.
CONTACT: Judie Woolcott, Fox Valley UFO Discussion and Support Group, P.O. Box 584, Menasha, WI 54952-0584.

INLAND EMPIRE UFO EXCHANGE in Desert Hot Springs, CA, plans to hold monthly discussions, lectures and study meetings about the UFO phenomenon. Sightings in San Bernardino County and adjacent areas will be registed and included in quarterly reports. Newsletter will include members' comments, photographs, speculations and data report forms to register sightings.
CONTACT: Pat Weissleader, Inland Empire UFO Exchange, 71455 18th Ave. Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240

J & S AQUARIAN NETWORKING shares all types of "Aquarian" information, particularly items about UFOs, crystals and crystal skulls. Additional services include networking through the sales and exchange of books and mailing lists. Acting as a connecting point in the process of global information systems, J & S plans to utilize modern technology via computer and video. Says Shapiro, "We are open to connecting with others of like mind, and especially New Age businesses wishing to network as a way of speeding up the global sharing of information."
CONTACT: J&S Aquarian Networking, Att'n: Joshua & Sandra, P.O. Box 438, Pinole, CA 94564. (415) 758-8607

UFO CONTACT CENTER INTERNATIONAL deals specifically with helping contactees, running 22 centers throughout the U.S. and Canada. This non-profit support center provides needed counseling to those who have been subjected to scorn and ridicule and are having difficulty coping with sudden changes in their lives. UFOCCI publishes a monthly newsletter called "The Missing Link," $19 annually; $25 for foreign subscriptions.
CONTACT: Aileen Bringle, director, UFO Contact Center International, 3001 S. 288th St., No. 304, Seattle, WA 98003

UNISOC, UNIverse Society, promotes activities such as publishing, videotaping and receiving messages, based on the claims of physical contactee Hal Wilcox, who says he was granted a divine covenant to complete "seven test projects." An upcoming trip to Egypt is planned in hopes of retrieving information that will complete UNISOC's communication center. Videotapes, shortwave communications, BBS computer and a newsletter are available.
CONTACT: Hal Wilcox, UNISOC, P.O. Box 38132, Hollywood, CA 90038

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Information on page 48

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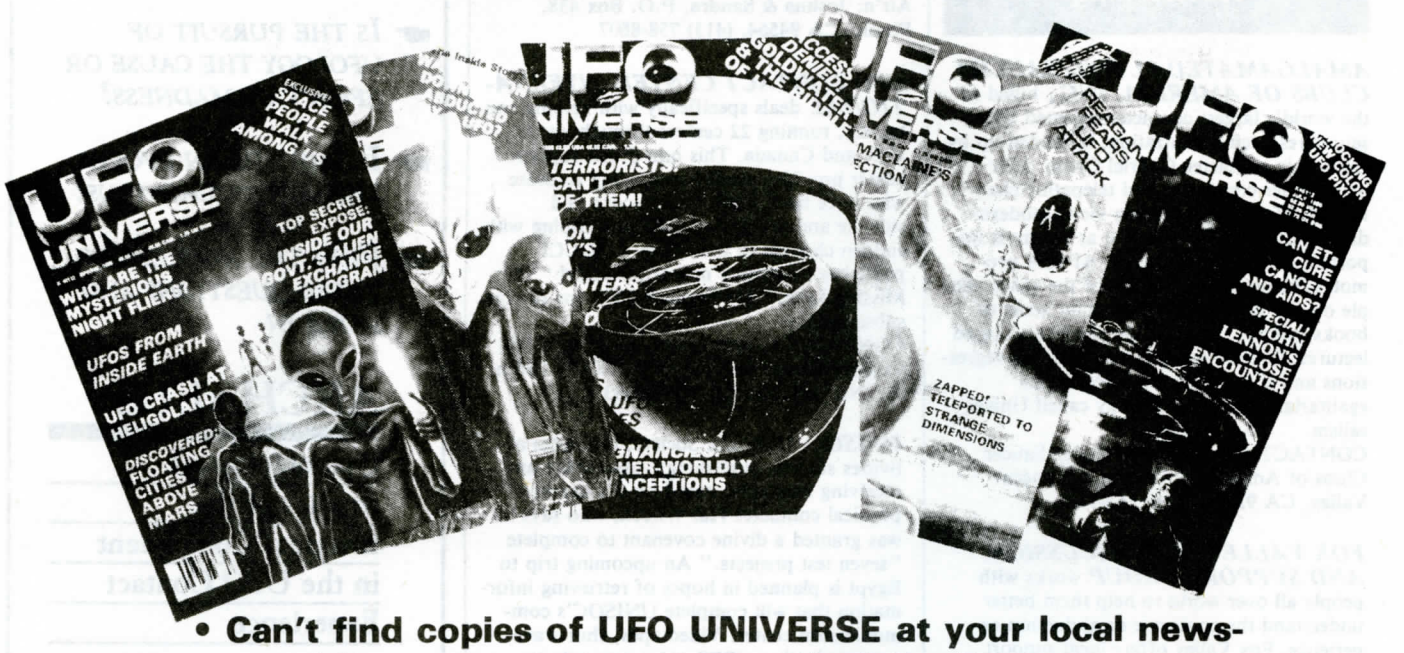
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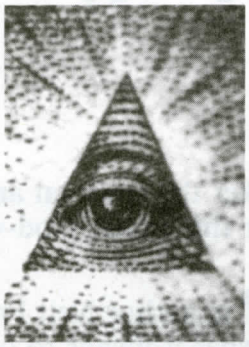

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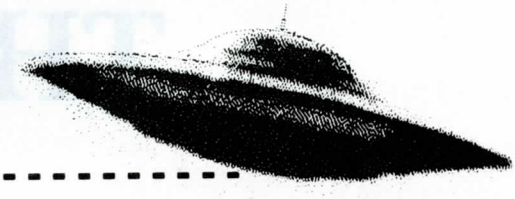

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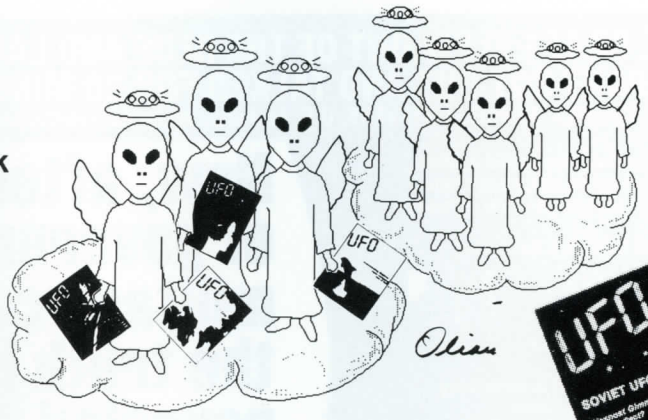

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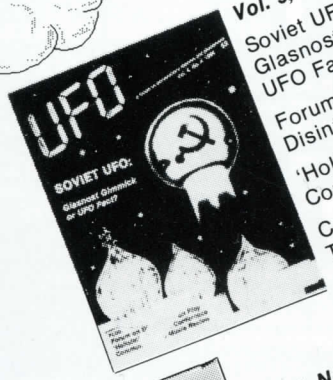

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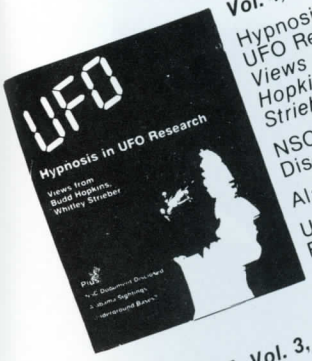

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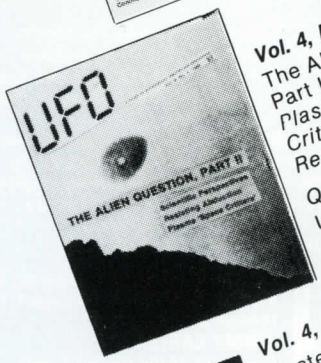

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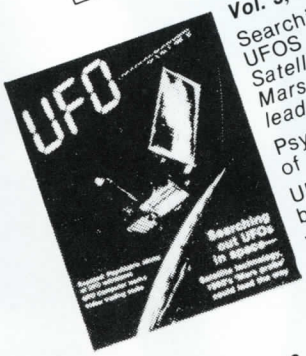

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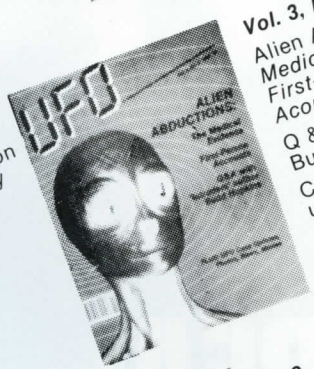

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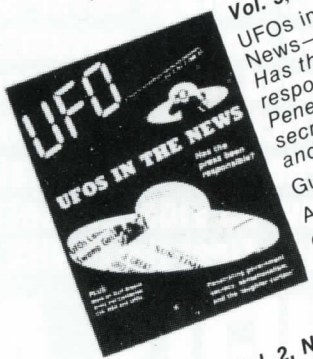

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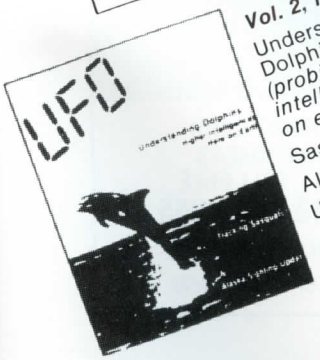

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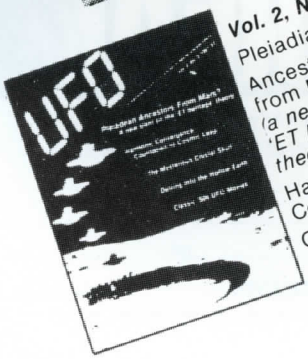

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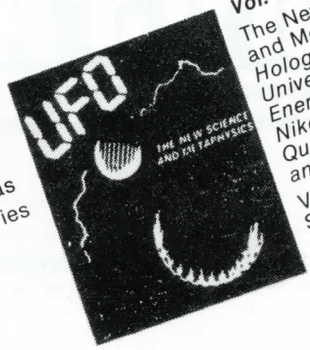

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"It was almost a mid-air collision with a UFO. It pulled my helicopter up more than a thousand feet."
LT. COLONEL LAWRENCE COYNE, *U.S. Army*

"...The phenomenon reported is something real and not visionary or fictitious."
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Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force

"It was strewn over an area ¾ of a mile long...we didn't know what it was."
MAJOR JESSE MARCEL,
Intelligence Officer, U.S. Army

"I must insist upon full access to discs recovered...the Army grabbed [one] and would not let us have it for cursory examination."
J. EDGAR HOOVER *Director, F.B.I.*

"Air Force, Navy, and commercial pilots have revealed to me cases when a UFO would fly near them right off their plane's wing...highly secret government UFO investigations are going on that we don't know about."
SENATOR BARRY GOLDWATER

"It seemed to move toward us, then partially away, then return, then depart. It was bluish, reddish and luminous."
JIMMY CARTER
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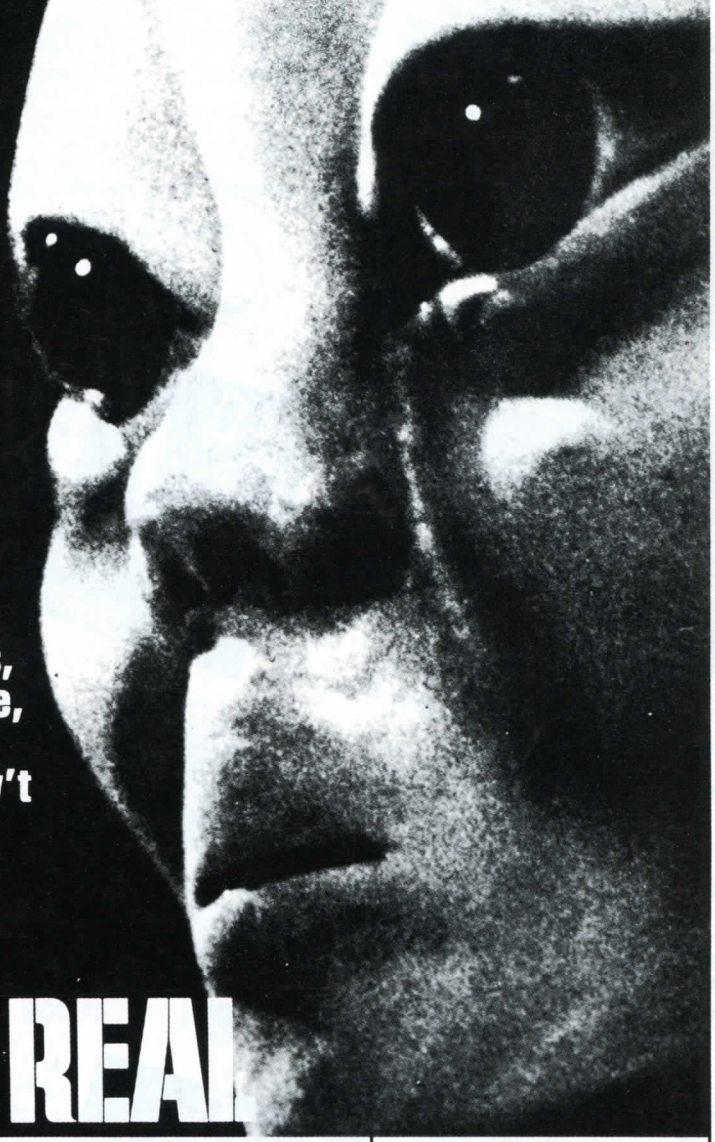

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